

Ministers Welcome Le Beaujolais Nuveau



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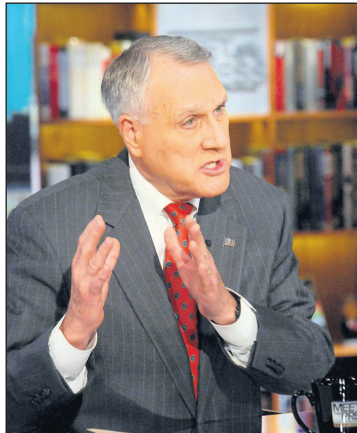


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Sen. John Kyl, R-Ariz., a member of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, talks about the committee's work Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011, in Washington. Fanning out to the sets of various Sunday talk shows, Democrats and Republicans on the committee blamed each other for a deepening impasse that has all but doomed chances for an accord. In a series of interviews, not a single panelist seemed optimistic about any last-minute breakthrough. (AP Photo/NBC News, William B. Plowman)

Deficit talks collapsed in storm of partisan blame

STEVEN R. HURST
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A congressional committee assigned with slashing at least \$1.2 trillion from the U.S. federal deficit appeared to have failed in that task, with Republicans and Democrats blaming each other and preparing to announce on Monday they could not agree on a package of tax increases or spending cuts.

That would trigger automatic cuts of an equal amount in 2013 from spending on defense and many government agencies.

With congressional approval among Americans at only 9 percent, the failed effort was likely to drive that number still lower and could hurt members of the House of Representatives

and Senate who face re-election next year. It also could weigh heavily on the candidacy of President Barack Obama, who added significantly to the deficit with stimulus spending that he said was necessary to keep the country out of another economic depression. He acted after the U.S. financial meltdown in the closing months of the administration of former President George W. Bush.

The deadline for an agreement in the so-called Supercommittee is Wednesday, but the panel needs to have a plan in place by the end of the day Monday to give the Congressional Budget Office time to assess the true effects on the deficit.

With the struggling U.S. economy weighed down

by crushing debt, the committee was established in the summer when Obama and House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner reached a hard-fought deal to raise the U.S. debt ceiling — normally done as a matter of course — to avoid a historic first default on the country's debt.

While positions have varied as the committee members negotiated, most Republicans were unable to leap the hurdle of tax increases demanded by the Democrats, who are equally un-

willing to accept the big cuts Republicans wanted to make in social safety net programs — Social Security pensions, Medicare health insurance for the elderly and Medicaid health coverage for the poor.

Moving away from those positions proved especially difficult for members of each party with the 2012 election looming next year. They are afraid to break ranks with party orthodoxy during one of the most partisan periods in American political history. □

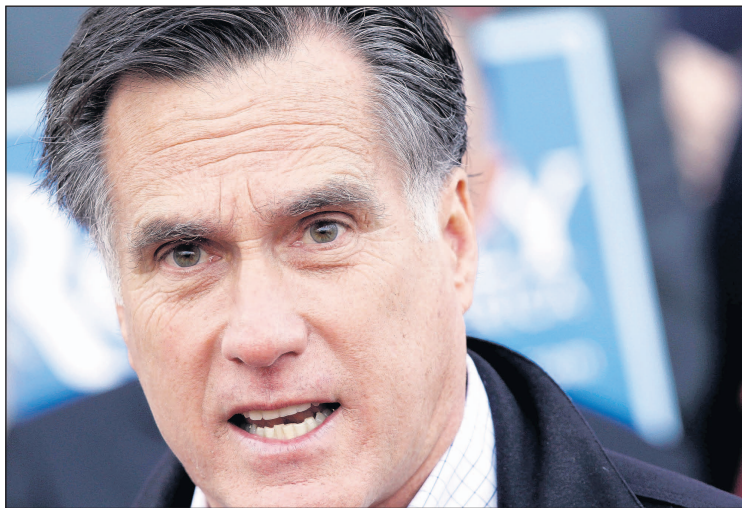
6 of 8 Republicans talk religion in Iowa

STEVEN R. HURST
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Six Republican candidates in the race to challenge President Barack Obama opened up about how their religious beliefs have influenced their public lives before an influential audience of social conservatives in the key early voting state of Iowa.

Two candidates were notably absent. Front-running Mitt Romney and last place Jon Huntsman are both Mormons, a faith that many evangelical Christians, such as those attending the Saturday evening forum in Des Moines, see as a religious sect.

Those candidates who attended were courting



Republican presidential candidate former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney speaks outside City Hall in Nashua, N.H., Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011.

(AP Photo/Winslow Townson)

the powerful conservative evangelical bloc of voters in the Midwestern state, which holds the first-in-the-nation caucuses in early

January that can provide momentum heading into the next key nominating contests. □

NYC Mayor:

Manhattan man arrested in plot

TOM McELROY
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Sunday an al-Qaida sympathizer who plotted to bomb police and post offices in New York City has been arrested on numerous charges.

Bloomberg announced the Saturday arrest of 27-year-old Jose Pimentel of Manhattan, a U.S. citizen originally from the Dominican Republic.

"He appears to be a total lone wolf. There is no evidence that he worked with anyone else," the mayor said at a news conference.

Pimentel is accused of having an explosive substance that he planned to use against others and property to terrorize the public.

The charges include conspiracy, first-degree criminal possession of a weapon as a crime of terrorism, and soliciting support for a terrorist act.

"This is just another example of New York City because we are an iconic city ... this is a city that people would want to take away our freedoms gravitate to and focus on," Bloomberg said.

The New York Police Department's Intelligence Division was involved in the arrest. Police Commissioner Ray Kelly said Pimentel spend most of his years in Manhattan and lived about five years in Schenectady. □

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Protests push back troops in Tahrir square

DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK
LIAM STACK

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CAIRO – Egypt's interim military rulers battled a reinvigorated protest movement calling for its ouster Sunday, as thousands of demonstrators forced troops to retreat from Tahrir Square for a second night in a row. Many compared the breadth and intensity of the new battles for the square – the iconic heart of the Egyptian revolt and the Arab Spring – to the early days of the uprising against former President Hosni Mubarak, only this time the target of the protesters' ire was the ruling military council and its leader, Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi.

The military-led government's attempts to turn back or squash the protests appeared to only redouble their strength. After using tear gas, rubber bullets and bird shot to beat back a day of continuous attacks on the headquarters of the interior ministry, hundreds of soldiers and security police in riot gear stormed the square from several directions at once at about 5 p.m., raining down rocks and tear gas as they drove thousands of demonstrators out before them.

But after less than half an hour they had retreated, having succeeded only in burning down a few tents in the middle of the square. After another half an hour

the crowd of protesters had more than doubled, packing the square as ever more demonstrators marched in from all directions chanting for the end of military rule.

The protests against military rule spread to at least seven other cities, including Alexandria and Suez. The health ministry said at least seven people were reported killed Sunday, after one died Saturday, and the number of seriously injured grew to more than 900. A makeshift field hospital the protesters had set up in a mosque near the square treated a steady stream of hundreds bloodied by birdshot and rubber

be complete until March and the military has said it intends to hold power until long after they are finished.



bullets and recorded at least one of the fatalities. Despite the chaos, the military-led government said Sunday that it intends to go forward with parliamentary elections scheduled to begin in stages next Monday, though they will not

Cancelling or postponing the elections would likely ignite an even larger revolt, with the Muslim Brotherhood, the Islamist group that is Egypt's largest and most disciplined political force, taking to the streets. A spectrum of political

organizations, including the Brotherhood and the young liberal leaders of the original revolt against

elected as soon as April. At least three prominent liberal parliamentary candidates and some parties declared that they were suspending their campaigns because of the crisis.

But the new revolt against interim military rule appeared even more spontaneous and less organized than the original uprising. There was no sign of leaders and few political movements present in the square, and it was hard to imagine with whom the military could negotiate if it chose to work out a hand-over of power.

"I saw the revolution being slain so I had to come," said Ahmed Hamza, 41, a lawyer, watching the fray. Like many in the square, he vowed to stay until the ruling military council committed to a swift exit from power but also said he feared the generals welcomed the chaos as pretext to cancel elections.

In a television interview late Saturday night, Gen. Mohsen Fangary, a spokesman for the ruling military council, promised a formal response the next day.

He blamed demonstrators for igniting the violence, suggested protesters were "enemies" of Egypt, and he hinted that unnamed satellite news channels – presumably Al-Jazeera – had played a role.

"The youth are blinded to the reality of the situation," he said. □

Protesters near Tahrir Square in Cairo on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011. The confrontations with police are the most violent manifestation so far of growing anger at the military-led interim government. (Moises Saman/The New York Times)

Mubarak, called Sunday for the military to commit to an accelerated schedule for handing power to civilians – either to some imagined crisis government, the lower house of parliament when it is seated early next year, or to a new president

Officers in pepper spray incident placed on leave

JASON DEAREN

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A California university placed two of its police officers on administrative leave Sunday because of their involvement in the pepper spraying of passively sitting protesters, while the school's chancellor accelerated a task force's investigation into the incident amid calls for her resignation.

The president of the 10-campus University of California system also weighed in on the growing fallout from Friday's incident at UC Davis, saying that he is "appalled" at images of students being doused with pepper spray and plans a far-reaching, urgent assessment of law enforcement procedures on all campuses.

"I implore students who wish to demonstrate to do so in a peaceful and lawful fashion. I expect campus authorities to honor that right," UC President Mark G. Yudof said. All 10 chancellors would convene soon

for a discussion "about how to ensure proportional law enforcement response to non-violent protest," he said.

Officials at UC Davis refused to identify the two officers who were placed on administrative leave but one was a veteran of many years on the force and the other "fairly new" to the department, the school's Police Chief Annette Spicuzza told The Associated Press. She would not elaborate further because of the pending probe.

Videos posted online of the incident clearly show one riot-gear clad officer dousing the line of protesters with spray as they sit in a line with their arms intertwined. Spicuzza told the AP that the second officer was identified during an intense review of several videos.

"We really wanted to be diligent in our research, and during our viewing of multiple videos we discovered the second officer," Spicuzza said. "This is the right thing to do."



Occupy Wall Street protesters play drums down the block from New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg's house in New York, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011. Occupy Wall Street protesters planned to drum in front of the mayor's house for 24 hours, but police closed the street to all pedestrian traffic. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

Both officers were trained in the use of pepper spray as department policy dictates, and both had been sprayed with it themselves during training, the chief noted.

Meanwhile, UC Davis Chancellor Linda Katehi said she has been inundated with reaction from alumni, students and faculty.

"I spoke with students this weekend and I feel their outrage," Katehi said in a statement Sunday.

Katehi also set a 30-day deadline for her school's task force investigating the incident to issue its report. The task force, comprised of students, staff and faculty, will be chosen this week. She earlier had set a 90-day timetable. □

U.S. media companies trolling overseas for concepts to mine



A scene from the television show "Big Boss" in India, a version of "Big Brother" in the U.S. Giant companies like Time Warner and Discovery are honing in on foreign production houses that own "formats," entertainment concepts like reality or game shows that can be plopped down in almost any country and resonate. (Endemol Group via The New York Times)

AMY CHOZICK

© 2011 New York Times

American media companies may be cutting back on the domestic front, but they are shopping heavily overseas. The object of their desires? Reality shows like "Big Brother," "Promzillas" and "Freaky Eaters."

As giant companies like Time Warner and Discovery obtain a growing portion of their revenue from overseas markets, they are homing in on a handful of relatively small foreign production houses. They value these companies because they own what the industry

calls "formats" — entertainment concepts like reality or game shows that can be plopped down in almost any country and find audiences regardless of cultural divides.

Though it is shedding assets in the United States, Time Warner made a \$1.4 billion bid this month for Endemol, the Dutch production company behind reality stalwarts like "Big Brother," "Wipeout," and more recently "Love in the Wild," a dating show set in a jungle. Also this month Discovery Communications acquired an outside production company for the first time when it paid an estimated \$16 million for Betty, which makes "Freaky Eaters" and other British television shows.

Based in London, Betty does not carry the same cachet as a Hollywood entertainment enterprise with high-end television shows and big-name producers, but for Discovery it offers something even more valuable: intellectual property. Unlike a finished show that studios export to local partners who add subtitles or dubbing, a format is simply a piece of intellectual property. □

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Niche voters giving Paul momentum in Iowa polls

TRIP GABRIEL

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VINTON, Iowa — Steve and Cindy Anders belong to one of Iowa's most politically savvy movements — Christian home schoolers, whose organizing on behalf of Mike Huckabee in 2008 was one of the secrets behind his upset victory in the state's Republican caucus. This year the Anderses are behind Ron Paul, the Texas congressman who advocates a drastically shrunken federal government that includes closing the Education Department.

In a year when the Republican field is unusually fractured, with front-runners coming around as often as carousel ponies, Paul's ability to mobilize niche groups like home schoolers may make a big difference.

His campaign, which has won a number of straw polls and is picking up momentum, has demonstrated its ability to organize and mobilize supporters, which is particularly relevant in Iowa, where relatively small numbers can tip the scales in the caucuses.

For his part, Anders was looking forward to a meeting with a Ron Paul campaign staff member to strategize "how we can go to work for Ron Paul."



Rep. Ron Paul (R-Texas), a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, speaks with employees of Nationwide/Allied Insurance during campaign stop in Des Moines, Iowa. Paul has been gaining ground in surveys of Iowa caucus-goers, giving rise to a once far-fetched scenario, that he might emerge the surprise winner of the state's caucus on Jan. 3.

(Daniel Acker/The New York Times)

"Home schoolers are really independently minded," said Anders, estimating that most of the 10 other families in his Saturday morning coffee club in Council Bluffs, Iowa, support Paul. "He believes the federal government has no role in education, as most home schoolers will agree."

Home-school families are among the converts to Paul who, along with small-business owners and vot-

ers well past college age, have helped him build support beyond his fierce core of followers, often young people.

His support has usually added up to less than 10 percent in opinion surveys of Republican primary voters. But now, thanks to the best organized grass-roots campaign in Iowa and heavy spending on television ads that portray him as consistent while other Republicans have flip-flopped,

Paul is breaking through that ceiling, giving rise to a once far-fetched scenario, that he might win the state's caucuses on Jan. 3. "I'm buying Ron Paul today," said Craig Robinson, a former political director for the Republican Party of Iowa, who on Wednesday sent a Twitter message saying, "Ron Paul's Iowa Campaign Office was abuzz at 8 pm tonight when I drove by on my way to the bank. Impressive."

Two state polls this week show him in a statistical tie for first. One, released Monday by Bloomberg News, showed Paul winning 19 percent of likely Republican caucus voters, within the margin of error with Herman Cain, Mitt Romney

and Newt Gingrich.

The Bloomberg poll showed that about two-thirds of Iowa respondents had been contacted by the Paul campaign by phone, email or a knock on the door, more outreach than any other candidate.

"We've been out-hustling the other campaigns," said Jesse Benton, Paul's national campaign manager. Thanks to strong fundraising from small donors on the Internet, the campaign has been able to saturate the Iowa airwaves with ads. It has outspent all others — \$2.5 million on TV and radio spots in Iowa and New Hampshire (where a Bloomberg poll had Paul in second this week behind Romney). □

Police: Fake doc injected cement in woman's rear

KELLI KENNEDY
Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — A woman who wanted to work at a nightclub started searching for someone who could perform plastic surgery at a cheap price to give her a curvier body. Police say what she found was a woman posing as a doctor who filled her buttocks with cement, mineral oil and flat-tire sealant.

The suspect — who police say was born a man and identifies as a woman — apparently performed the surgery on herself, and investigators say she may have victimized others. Oneal Ron Morris, 30, was arrested Friday after a year

on the lam and has been charged with practicing medicine without a license with serious bodily injury.

Police photos show Morris as a small-framed woman with bee-stung pouty lips, arched eyebrows, oversized hoop earrings — and a large backside. She was released from jail on bond. A phone listing for Morris could not be found, and it's unclear if she has an attorney. Miami Gardens Police Sgt. Bill Bamford said Sunday that Morris bounced from house to house for a year, driving a black Mercedes and staying out of investigators' sight "like a ghost." An officer drove by one of those possible hous-

es nearly every day on his way to work and saw the car outside on Friday, and he arrested Morris soon after. The victim, who is not being named due to medical privacy laws, paid \$700 for a series of injections in May 2010. She was referred to Morris by a friend.

Morris injected some type of tube in several sites around her bottom, pumping it full of a toxic concoction. Morris reassured the woman when the pain became too intense, police said. Bamford said Morris told the woman, "'Oh don't worry, you'll be fine. We just keep injecting you with the stuff and it all works itself out.'" □

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Big payouts from startups excite Silicon Valley

BROOKE DONALD
Associated Press
PALO ALTO, California (AP)
 — Everyone dreams of striking it rich — and what they would do with such a wind-fall. A new house? A fancy car? Maybe designer clothes selected by a personal shopper.
 For some in Silicon Valley, those wishes may soon come true.
 As restrictions on selling stock are lifted at a handful of sizzling startups, early investors and employees are preparing for big payouts. What they'll do with their riches is anyone's guess, but luxury retailers and



As restrictions on selling stock are lifted at a handful of sizzling startups, early investors and employees are preparing for big payouts. With luxury retailers and wealth managers saying they're expecting a bump in business and have been preparing for this new crop of Internet millionaires. (AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

wealth managers say they're expecting a bump in business and have been preparing for this new crop of Internet millionaires.
 "We anticipate more activity over the next few months," said Richard Levinsohn, manager at Porsche of Stevens Creek in Santa Clara. "A lot of these people will have new found wealth and they're looking for a place to spend it. We're only too happy to help."
 After a company goes public, financial regulations prohibit investors and employees who held shares before the listing to

immediately cash out. That means companies that started trading on the stock market in the summer are just now emerging from the so-called "lockup" period. The first up with the most buzz? LinkedIn Corp., which went public in May. With its lockup expiring this month, the Mountain View-based social networking site announced last week that employees and early backers sold nearly 7.5 million shares at \$71 apiece.
 In a regulatory filing Wednesday, the company listed six individuals and a group of a dozen unnamed executives and directors who sold shares. According to the filing, CEO Jeff Weiner stands to gain more than \$25 million, based on the \$71 share price minus fees. A handful of other stockholders and venture capital firms also sold shares for million dollar payouts.
 While only a wee slice of the population, these newly minted high-end spenders can make a difference in the luxury goods bottom line, retailers say. They also infuse optimism in the market.
 "We're definitely more confident taking on the really expensive homes now, the \$3 million to \$10 million range, and knowing we can move them," said Steve Cooper, of Intero Real Estate Services. Cooper and his associate, Nicole Derner, have multimillion dollar listings in Los Gatos, Saratoga and other parts of Silicon Valley. She said some clients have been waiting for the more robust market before listing. □

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1 dead as truck strikes group at Yale tailgate party

THOMAS KAPLAN

ELIZABETH A. HARRIS

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Thomas Kaplan reported from New Haven, and Elizabeth A. Harris from New York. Nora Caplan-Bricker contributed reporting from New Haven, and Sarah Maslin Nir from New York.

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — A truck carrying beer kegs went out of control during a tailgate party Saturday before the Yale-Harvard game at Yale Bowl, swerving into a crowd and hitting three people, the authorities said. One person, a 30-year-old woman, was fatally injured.

The grassy parking field opposite the stadium was lined with U-Haul trucks, their backs opened to create miniature party rooms. Just before 10 a.m., another U-Haul truck rented by members of a Yale fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and driven by a male undergraduate student headed onto the field and suddenly accelerated toward a group of people, striking three of them before crashing into a parked truck.

"I heard people screaming," said Gaby Jenn, a Yale senior. "I turned around and saw three people on the ground."

The police said the woman who died was from Massachusetts, but she was not otherwise identified. In a statement, Yale University said that she was not affiliated with the school. She was not believed to be affiliated with Harvard.

The two people who were injured were taken to hospitals. One had minor injuries, and the other, a student at



Police close off the grassy parking field across from the Yale stadium where a U-Haul truck accelerated toward a group of people, in New Haven, Conn., Nov. 19, 2011. A truck went out of control during a tailgate party before the Yale-Harvard game at Yale Bowl on Saturday, swerved into a crowd and hit three people, fatally injuring one of them, a 30-year-old woman, the authorities said. (Christopher Capozziello/The New York Times)

the Yale School of Management, was in serious but stable condition.

A student who heard accounts of the accident from members of the fraternity said the truck had stopped at a checkpoint where security officers were handing out wristbands identifying which students were of legal drinking age. Then, when the truck started to pull away, it accelerated uncontrollably, clipping the three people along the way, according to the student, who spoke on the condition of anonymity

because of the continuing police investigation.

Officer David Hartman, spokesman for the New Haven Police Department, said a young man had been driving the truck and was being interviewed by the police Saturday afternoon.

His name was not released, but students identified him as Brendan Ross, a junior history major from O'Fallon, Mo., near St. Louis. He did not respond to email or cellphone messages Saturday. □

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China arrests head of school that ran packed bus



Two children stand in front of the Little Doctor Kindergarten whose minibus collided head-on with a truck in Zhengning county in Qingyang city in northwest China's Gansu province. The kindergarten that operated a crowded, makeshift bus that crashed, killing 19 children, has closed and a new public school will open at the same location Monday, state-run media and a city government said.

(AP Photo)

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese authorities have arrested the owner of a kindergarten that operated a severely overcrowded bus that crashed, killing 19 children, state media said.

The privately run school will be closed and a new public school will open at the same location Monday, the city government said.

The bus, originally a nine-seat van, was carrying 62 children and two adults when it crashed head-on with a truck in northwest Gansu province on Wednesday. Their teacher and the driver died along with the children, who were between 3 and 5 years old, and all 43 surviving children were injured.

The bus was on its way to the privately run Little Doctor Kindergarten in a rural area that comes under the Qingyang city government. Qingyang city government said in a statement that the kindergarten has been closed, and that the public school opening at the same site will have a 45-seat bus donated by an oil company. It also said that parents of each killed child will receive 436,000 yuan (\$68,000) in "compensation and consolation" money. The owner of the kindergarten, Li Jungang, has been formally arrested on suspicion of causing traffic casualties, the Procuratorial Daily, the top prosecutor's official newspaper, said in

a report on its website.

The report cited the county prosecutor as saying Li broke traffic laws by removing the seats in the van to cram more passengers in and by instructing others to drive the overloaded vehicle. Xinhua said the Little Doctor Kindergarten had more than 700 children but only four vans whose seats had been removed so more passengers could be crammed in. The new school will open Monday, it said. Such overcrowding on school buses is common in China. Commentators say closures of rural schools have exacerbated the problem, as children are forced to travel farther to get an education. □

Hundreds of Afghans protest pact with US

RAHIM FAIEZ

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— More than 1,000 university students blocked a main highway in eastern Afghanistan on Sunday as they protested against any agreement that would allow U.S. troops to stay in Afghanistan after a planned transfer of authority in 2014. An assembly of more than 2,000 tribal elders and dignitaries known as a loya jirga endorsed the idea of such agreement in a conference that ended Saturday, though they also backed a series of conditions proposed by Afghan President Hamid Karzai including the end of night raids by international troops and complete Afghan control over detainees. The protesters in Jalalabad city blocked the road to Kabul as they shouted "Death to America! Death to Karzai!" They said they would not accept any partnership with the United States.



University students of Nangarhar shout slogans against the U.S. and Afghan governments as they burn an effigy of U.S. President Barack Obama during a demonstration in Jalalabad, east of Kabul, Afghanistan, on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011. More than 1,000 university students blocked a main highway in eastern Afghanistan on Sunday as they protested against any agreement that would allow U.S. troops to stay in Afghanistan after a planned transfer of authority in 2014.

(AP Photo/Rahmat Gul)

Both the resolution and the protests reflect the tension in Afghanistan between a desire for real sovereignty and the need to bolster the relatively weak government against the still-strong Taliban insurgency. The idea of the proposed security agreement is to

keep a U.S. military presence in Afghanistan past 2014, when most international forces are to have left. Afghan and U.S. officials envision a force of several thousand U.S. troops, who would train Afghan forces and help with counterterrorism operations. □



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DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK
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ZINTAN, Libya — Libyan militia fighters on Saturday captured Seif al-Islam Gadhafi, the last fugitive son and onetime heir apparent of Moammar Gadhafi, setting off nationwide celebrations but also exposing a potential power struggle between former-rebel factions over his handling. Militia leaders based in Zintan, a western mountain town and stronghold of resistance to Gadhafi's regime, said they captured Seif al-Islam early Saturday

Criminal Court said he would head to Libya in the next few days to discuss how and where Seif al-Islam Gadhafi would be tried.

"We are coordinating with the Justice Ministry to ensure that any solution is in accordance with the law," said the prosecutor, Luis Moreno-Ocampo.

Leaders in Zintan promised that they would protect Gadhafi and that justice would take its course.

"We are arranging a very safe place for him," said Mussa Grife, a member of the Zintan revolutionary movement's political

In scenes of celebration outstripped only by news of Moammar Gadhafi's capture and death last month, Tripoli's streets erupted in revelry at the news that Seif al-Islam Gadhafi had been seized. Vehicles clogged intersections, horns blaring, and militiamen shot their rifles into the sky. In Zintan, thousands of people poured into the streets amid fireworks and gunfire. The capture eliminates perhaps the best hope that loyalists had of rallying a new revolution around the remnants of the Gadhafi family. It also represents a personal



Seif al-Islam Gadhafi during an interview in Tripoli, Libya. Libya's transitional government said Saturday that its fighters in the southwestern desert had captured Seif al-Islam Gadhafi, the last fugitive son and one-time heir apparent of Moammar Gadhafi.

(Moises Saman/The New York Times)

in the southwestern desert near Awbari, along with a small entourage.

But while transitional government leaders in the capital, Tripoli, promised that Gadhafi would be closely guarded and turned over to the International Criminal Court to be tried on war crimes charges, leaders in Zintan insisted that they would not hand him over until a formal national government was formed — a process that is in the works but at least a day or two away. Such insistence on factional power is at the heart of international concerns about Libya's future. And after Moammar Gadhafi's capture and killing at the hands of militiamen a month ago, his son's case will be an important test of Libya's commitment to the rule of law.

On Saturday, the prosecutor for the International

committee. "The people of Zintan want to leave a good impression for the world and treat Seif according to human rights and according to Islamic values."

Tellingly, the National Transitional Council's prime minister, Abdel Rahim el-Keeb, came to Zintan with an entourage of officials to celebrate the capture.

"Congratulations to all Libya, all men, women and children," he said at a news conference here. "Now we can build a new Libya."

El-Keeb emphasized that the government in Tripoli was in no rush to take direct custody of Gadhafi and that it would accept Zintan's demands to hold him.

"We trust their ability to take care of this," he said. "They will keep him in peace, and take care of him, unlike how he treated our people."

transformation that turned Seif al-Islam Gadhafi from the most prominent advocate of changing his father's Libya into one of the chief architects of the regime's deadly crackdown on dissent in its final days. Grife said Zintan fighters had been following Gadhafi through the desert using local sources for intelligence about his whereabouts in the past few weeks. When they learned he and a small entourage would try to make a break to leave the country, perhaps bound for Tunisia, they laid a trap for him on Saturday morning along a valley road outside Awbari, an oasis town. When Zintan fighters blocked the caravan, Gadhafi broke from his vehicle and was captured on foot. "They tried to fight," Grife said. A few shots were fired, but there were no reports of any wounded. □



Inaki Antiguada, a leader of the new pro-independence Basque coalition Amaiur, supporters after winning seven seats at Parliament in Pamplona, northern Spain, Sunday Nov. 20, 2011. Spain's opposition conservatives swept commandingly into power and into the hot seat Sunday as voters enduring a 21.5 percent jobless rate and stagnant economy dumped the Socialists — the third time in as many weeks Europe's debt crisis has claimed a government.

(AP Photo/Alvaro Barrientos)

Spain tilts to the right as voters oust Socialists

DANIEL WOOLLS
Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Spain's center-right conservatives swept convincingly into power and into an economic hot seat Sunday as voters enduring 21.5 percent unemployment dumped the ruling Socialist government — the third time in as many weeks that Europe's debt crisis has toppled an administration.

The vote in the country with the eurozone's highest jobless rate and a center-stage spot in Europe's debt crisis saga came as the continent's troubles cause financial havoc across the globe. And the victory for Spain's Popular Party came just after financially troubled Greece and Italy saw their governments fall.

As thousands of cheering supporters waved red-and-yellow Spanish flags and blue-and-white Popular Party banners on a Madrid avenue outside party headquarters, future prime minister Mariano Rajoy called for Spaniards of all political stripes to work together to overcome the crisis — but sounded a somber note of warning for a country with an economy that has stalled.

"It is no secret to anyone that we are going to rule in the most delicate circumstances Spain has faced in 30 years," he said. "For me, there will be no enemies but unemployment, the deficit, excessive debt, economic stagnation and anything else that keeps our country in these critical circumstances."

But the 56-year old Rajoy gave no hints of how he will tackle Spain's unemployment nightmare — with a much higher rate for young adults. So far, Rajoy has only promised tax cuts for small- and medium-size companies that make up more than 90 percent of all firms in Spain.

Rajoy faces the towering task of restoring investor confidence and lowering Spain's soaring borrowing costs with deficit-reducing measures, while preventing an already moribund economy from heading into a double-dip recession.

The country only just climbed out of one last year that was prompted by the bursting of a real estate bubble. With 99 percent of the vote counted, the Popular Party had won 186 seats compared to 154 in the last legislature. The Socialists plummeted from 169 seats to 110, their worst performance ever.

It was a resounding mandate that gave the party, known as the PP, an absolute parliamentary majority — and far more seats than the 176 it needed for this cushion in the lower chamber of Parliament, Spain's most important. □

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Pakistan leader faces pressure over memo

SALMAN MASOOD

WAQAR GILLANI

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ISLAMABAD

Pressure mounted Sunday on President Asif Ali Zardari to investigate allegations that Pakistan's ambassador to the United States had sought American help to rein in the Pakistani military, as opposition politicians called for action and records appearing to implicate the ambassador were leaked to the news media.

The ambassador, Husain Haqqani, returned to Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, on Sunday and met briefly with Zardari, according to an aide to the ambassador, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. The two were planning to meet again on Monday.

Haqqani has been accused of having a memo sent in May to Adm. Mike Mullen, then the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, asking the United States to help prevent a military coup in Pakistan and in exchange offering Pakistan's



Pressure mounted Sunday on President Asif Ali Zardari (above) to investigate allegations that Pakistan's ambassador to the United States had sought American help to rein in the Pakistani military, as opposition politicians called for action and records appearing to implicate the ambassador were leaked to the news media.

help with the war on Islamic militants and an array of other diplomatic and security considerations.

Haqqani, who denies having anything to do with the memo, has offered to resign and was recalled by the government to explain his position.

The main opposition leader, Nawaz Sharif, a former prime minister, added his voice on Sunday to those demanding an investigation, saying the government should complete an

inquiry about the authenticity of the memo and its contents within two days.

"Otherwise, we will move a petition in the Supreme Court for taking action," Sharif warned at a rally of thousands of his supporters in Faisalabad, in eastern Punjab province. He did not specify the kind of action he had in mind, but critics have called for punishments ranging from the ambassador's resignation to his prosecution on trea-

son charges.

The claim Haqqani was behind the memo to Mullen was first made in October by Mansoor Ijaz, a U.S. businessman of Pakistani origin, who said Haqqani had asked him to ensure it was delivered to the admiral. A former spokesman for Mullen said he had received the memo, but did not find it credible and took no action on it.

The unsigned memo, whose authenticity has yet to be

ascertained, was published Friday by The News, a leading English-language newspaper in Pakistan.

Citing a "dangerous devolution" of security in Pakistan after the killing of Osama bin Laden by U.S. forces, and the possibility of a military coup, the memo asked the U.S. for "direct intervention in conveying a strong, urgent and direct message" to the military, demanding that it end its "brinkmanship." □

Ethiopian troops cross into Somalia

JEFFREY GETTLEMAN

© 2011 New York Times

NAIROBI, Kenya

Witnesses along the drought-stricken Ethiopia-Somalia border reported Sunday that hundreds of Ethiopian troops had crossed into Somalia with armored personnel carriers, heavy artillery and tanks, opening a new front in an intensifying international offensive against the al-Shabab militant group.

The Islamist insurgents of

al-Shabab are already battling Kenyan forces in southern Somalia and African Union peacekeepers in Somalia's bullet-riddled capital, Mogadishu. So far the reaction among Somalis, though, has run contrary to what happened when Ethiopian troops invaded Somalia in 2006 to eject a powerful Islamist movement from the country. The invasion resulted in an Ethiopian military occupation that lasted about two years, turning Somalis against them and fueling al-Shabab's ascent. This time, many Somalis say they welcome anyone who can remove al-Shabab, even their historic enemy, the Ethiopians. "What we need right now is only peace, and we don't care about the iden-

tity of the peacemakers," said Abdulle Ismail, a resident in the central Somalia town of Guriel. Al-Shabab have been terrorizing much of Somalia for years, instituting a harsh form of Islamic law in the territory they control and blocking Western aid groups from working in their areas during a time of famine. The injection of Ethiopian troops is a risky move, Western officials say, because of the historic enmity between Ethiopia, a Christian-led nation, and Somalia, which is almost purely Muslim. Last week, African Union officials said they were considering adding Ethiopian troops to the 9,000 peacekeepers in Somalia, who have taken heavy casualties recently. □

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Berlusconi: Monti pledged not to run for office

FRANCES D'EMILIO
Associated Press
ROME (AP) — Silvio Berlusconi revealed in an interview Sunday that his party had asked new Premier Mario Monti not to run for office beyond his present term as part of negotiations to secure the Italian economist with crucial support from Parliament's largest force. The billionaire businessman, speaking to Corriere della Sera, reiterated that his party would decide on its support for Monti measure by measure. He also indicated he won't budge in his opposition to a tax on wealth that Monti is considering as one of his first actions to bring in revenue. Monti — a former European Union competition commissioner, who replaced Berlusconi as premier last week after the markets pounded Italy — is leading a new government tasked with trying to save the country from financial ruin. In just under a week, Monti has assembled a Cabinet of bankers, business executives, professors and other non-elected technocrats such as himself. While he has easily won confidence

votes, he will need the support of Berlusconi's conservatives — the largest party in Parliament — to push through harsher austerity cuts and new taxes likely to be unpopular with Italians. Berlusconi, asked in the interview if he and his forces had asked Monti to renounce plans to put together a campaign lineup, replied: "It's true. We asked him and all his ministers to publicly commit themselves to not run as candidates in the next elections." Monti effectively ruled himself out of the spring election on Friday, when reporters asked him about his plans. But he stopped short of a flat-out denial of any political intentions, saying he never was a candidate for anything. Berlusconi remained coy with Corriere about his own political plans. He said his People of Freedom party's candidate for premier will be decided by primaries, and predicted that party secretary, Angelino Alfano, would emerge as the candidate. Alfano, a former justice minister hand-picked by the media mogul as his political heir,



Italy's former premier Silvio Berlusconi, left, talks to Italian Premier Mario Monti in the lower chamber in Rome. Berlusconi revealed in an interview Sunday that his party had asked new Premier Mario Monti not to run for office beyond his present term as part of negotiations to secure the Italian economist with crucial support from Parliament's largest force.

"has all the qualities to be an excellent premier," he said. Berlusconi and many of his supporters had been pushing for early elections, but the former premier appeared to have dropped that demand on condition that Monti's policies mesh with his party's line. "Monti must last until 2013," Berlusconi was quoted as

saying. "The measures that he needs to bring to Parliament aren't just a few," he said. However, he warned that if Monti adopts measures which clash with the policies of the parties supporting him — "such as, for us, the wealth tax" — he won't be able to continue. Berlusconi's coalition partner for three premierships, the Northern League, has vowed to oppose Monti in Parliament. Berlusconi added that his center-right People of Freedom party had asked Monti to lobby the European Central Bank so that it would be "the guarantor of last resort for the euro, just like the central banks are for the dollar, the pound, and the yen." He said he also sought a commitment from Monti to push for a revision of the EU banking regulator's rules — which he contended "are suffocating Italian banks" — and said his forces in Parliament would oppose any proposals for measures that could trigger recession, while "supporting all initiatives to promote development." Berlusconi has said a tax on wealth would stifle development. □

(AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

'Killing fields' victims await Khmer Rouge trial

SOPHENG CHEANG
Associated Press
PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Three top Khmer Rouge leaders accused of orchestrating Cambodia's "killing fields" face a court Monday as a U.N.-backed tribunal begins their trials more than three decades after some of the 20th century's worst atrocities. Survivors of the regime held a remembrance ceremony outside Phnom Penh on Sunday. Relatives of the victims

wept as they chanted and burned incense near a glass case filled with skulls at Choeung Ek Genocide Center, a memorial built in a field where bones still jut out from the ground, remnants of the Khmer Rouge mass executions. The emotional ceremony was held to allow Cambodians an opportunity to share their concerns and remember loved ones ahead of the trials of three of the Khmer Rouge's surviving inner circle — all now in their 80s

— on charges including crimes against humanity, genocide and torture in connection with the Khmer Rouge's 1975-79 reign of terror. An estimated 1.7 million people died of execution, starvation, exhaustion or lack of medical care as a result of the Khmer Rouge's radical policies, which essentially turned all of Cambodia into a forced labor camp as the movement attempted to create a pure agrarian socialist society. □

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From safety of New York, reporting on distant home

BRENDAN SPIEGEL

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NEW YORK — When news breaks in Nigeria, Omoyele Sowore is there. His Web news operation was the first to publish a photo of the Nigeria-born “underwear bomber” arrested in December 2009, and when a suicide bombing this summer shook a U.N. building in Abuja, Nigeria’s capital, he was the first to publish on-the-ground reports and photos. During the presidential election in Nigeria in April, he published real-time photos, videos and reports from the field, exposing instances of ballot rigging, and attracting more than 8 million page views in one month. Sowore, 40, is not based in Abuja, Lagos or anywhere nearby, but in a cluttered seventh-floor office in Manhattan.

Armed with a laptop and a server, he has established his website, Sahara Reporters, as a major player in the Nigerian press, despite being 5,000 miles away. And he is only one of a growing number of New York-based journalists in exile taking advantage of cheap and easy Web-publishing technology, and the growing access in the developing world to the Web, to report with impunity from afar.

A recent report from the Committee to Protect Journalists, an organization devoted to promoting press freedom, counted at least 649 journalists from around the world forced into exile over the past decade,



Roozbeh Mirebrahimi, who runs a website that translates reports about Iran from the world press into Persian, in New York. Mirebrahimi is among a growing number of New York-based journalists in exile taking advantage of cheap and easy Web-publishing technology, and the growing access in the developing world to the Web, to report with impunity from afar.

(Chester Higgins Jr./The New York Times)

with 91 percent unable to return home, and only 22 percent able to work in their profession.

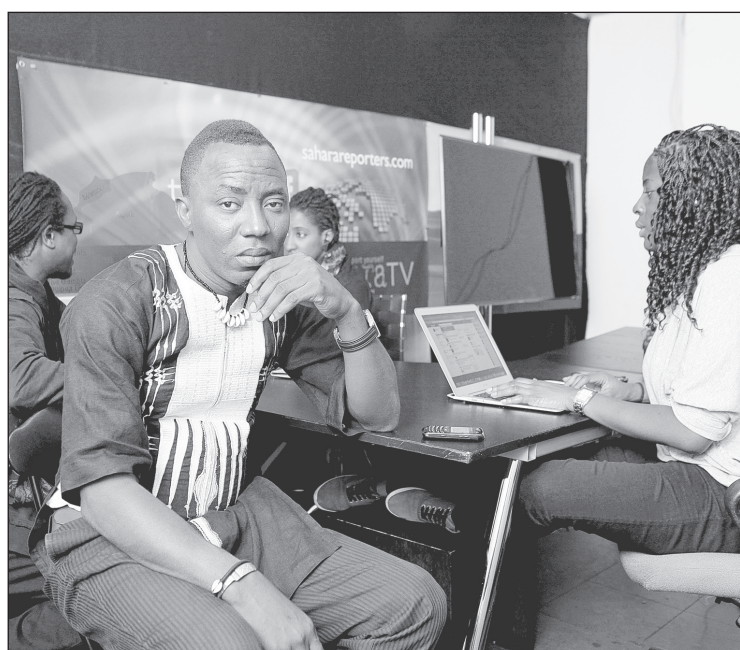
These include reporters from dictatorships like Cuba, but also from places like Russia and Mexico — democracies where working as a truth-seeking reporter can be a dangerous proposition.

In Nigeria, “now that we have, so to speak, democracy, you would expect the media to be more vibrant, but the opposite is the case,” Sowore said in an interview.

“It is not so much a problem of freedom of speech,” he said, “but freedom after speech. You can say a lot of things in Nigeria, but the question is: Will you still be a free person? Will you still be alive after you freely express yourself?”

Sowore grew up in a small

village on the Niger River Delta, where, he said, corrupt government officials reaped the benefits of the region’s oil-rich land while doing little to improve the lives of its impoverished residents. That experience impelled him to become a leader of antigovernment activists while a student at the University of Lagos, a position that he said resulted in his being harassed, abducted and ultimately tortured at the hands of the pro-government police. In 1999, he attended a peace conference at American University in Washington. Fellow activists recommended he seek help in the United States for the psychological afteref-



Omoyele Sowore, who uses a network of people to provide news online to Nigerians, in New York, Oct. 13, 2011. Sowore is among a growing number of New York-based journalists in exile taking advantage of cheap and easy Web-publishing technology, and the growing access in the developing world to the Web, to report with impunity from afar.

(Chester Higgins Jr./The New York Times)

fects of torture, and one colleague put him in touch with the Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture, an initiative that helps victims rebuild their physical and mental health. \He had planned to go back to Nigeria, but doctors advised, for his mental health, against an immediate return. Instead, he sought political asylum in the United States and enrolled as a graduate student in public administration at Columbia University. \Frustrated by his distance from his homeland, he soon realized that his re-entry into Nigerian political activism could come online.

“I have always been a lover of the media,” Sowore said, reminiscing about a comparatively robust news landscape when a military junta led Nigeria from 1983 to 1998. “These guys then were really daring. They would publish what they wanted, and weren’t afraid of the military.

The newspapers just refused to allow themselves to be proscribed.”

In 2004, Sowore and Jonathan Elendu, a fellow Nigerian exile based in Michigan, created an online publication called Elendu Reports. Mostly, they focused on the questionable activities abroad of Nigerian politicians, publishing photographs of extravagant houses and luxury car collections allegedly bought with the spoils of corruption, and following paper trails to offshore accounts. Back home, their exposes ignited widespread outrage. □



Italy wins the Nations Cup

Julie LaBrit of St. Martin wins Pro Ladies final at Beach Tennis

HADICURARI - Julie Labrit has won the Pro Ladies category of the Aruba International Beach Tennis Event, held at MooMba Beach these past days. The Men's final will be played tonight between the world's number one Alessandro Calbucci and his countryman Luca Melliconi, both from Italy.

The awards ceremony will be held after this final; a singles court will be laid out in front of Señor Frogs in The Village especially for this match. The Beach Tennis Event has drawn more than 400 participants from all over the world, with the Brazilians in the majority. They flew in with over 80 players! Aruba, the home of Beach Tennis, was present with some 200 local players and quite a few of them did really well! The Pro Ladies final was between Julie LaBrit from St. Martin and Flavia Muniz from Brazil., number 9 in the world. It was a tough match, resulting in a 7-4 win for Julie, who will move up in the ranking from her current number 15 position. The Nations Cup final was held last Friday evening. Italy and title defendant Brazil were playing their hearts out on center court. The third set went to strong-playing Italy in the mixed double. On Sunday the tournament saw quarter- and semi-finals in all categories, with as its sizzling finale the Pro Men's final. Results will be in this newspaper in the coming days. Once again the event has been a resounding success, with enthusiastic participants vowing to come back next year, bringing fans and friends. MooMba Beach was the perfect host for this out-



standing sports happening. Photos show Aruba's Pro Ladies champion Julie

LaBrit of St. Martin together with Alessandro Calbucci, who is playing the singles

final against Luca Melliconi tonight and some extraordinary moments which make

the Aruba International Beach Tennis Event such a memorable happening. □

MooMba Beach team gets fortified by three trainees from Holland

HADICURARI - Meet Hasse (20), Evi (19) and Annemiek (19) from Holland. They are three trainees who are currently on the island to learn the tricks of the trade of the restaurant and bar business and they will be working at MooMba Beach during the coming five months. The students are in great spirits, having discovered that it is not only work here on the island: all three love sports and partying, so this is the ultimate place to be. Combining work and play is not difficult at all when one is working at MooMba. Hasse de Kok loves playing field hockey, but unfortunately he cannot play here. There is a club, but his working hours do not coincide with the training practice, so now he has switched to Beach Tennis. A good choice, as the fabulous Aruba International Beach Tennis Event is held at MooMba these days. Evi Kweekel is also into sports: she likes surfing, snowboarding and listening to music, her pas-



sion. On her day off she loves to explore the island and its wonderful, often hidden, treasures. Annemiek Verhage is a fellow student of Evi; she loves

to go running, horseback riding and spending time with friends. Unfortunately, Annemiek is greatly missing her horse, but on the other

hand: five months is not a really long time. All three trainees are planning to continue studying after graduating; they wish to broaden their ho-

rizons. For now, their horizons are the Caribbean Sea at MooMba Beach. And they do love that view! We wish them lots of fun and success! □

Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemade Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



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orary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive years. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Ruella Arends from the Riu Palace Aruba Resort. □

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Aruba Trading celebrates at the Cellar 23



Continued from front

ORANJESTAD – For 20 years, the Aruba Trading Company celebrates the arrival of Beaujolais Nouveau with a grand party that is actually celebrated around the world.

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Portfolio Manager of Aruba Rafael Wever together with Aruba Trading Company General Manager Isaac Waincier called all of the guests forward for the special celebration at the Cellar 23. Together with the cooperation of the Screaming Eagle Restaurant-Lounge, Papiamento Restaurant and Gianni's Restaurant the event was an absolute success.

The pictures show the elegant opening of the first bottle of Beaujolais Nouveau 2011. □

'Sid the Kid' makes return against Isles today

In this Jan. 5, 2011, photo, Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby (87) waits for a resumption in play against the Tampa Bay Lightning during an NHL hockey game in Pittsburgh.

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Spain's Rafael Nadal reacts to a point lost to Mardy Fish during their round robin single tennis match at the ATP World Tour Finals at O2 Arena in London, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011.

Associated Press

Rafa, Federer win in 3 sets at ATP finals

CAROLINE CHEESE

AP Sports Writer

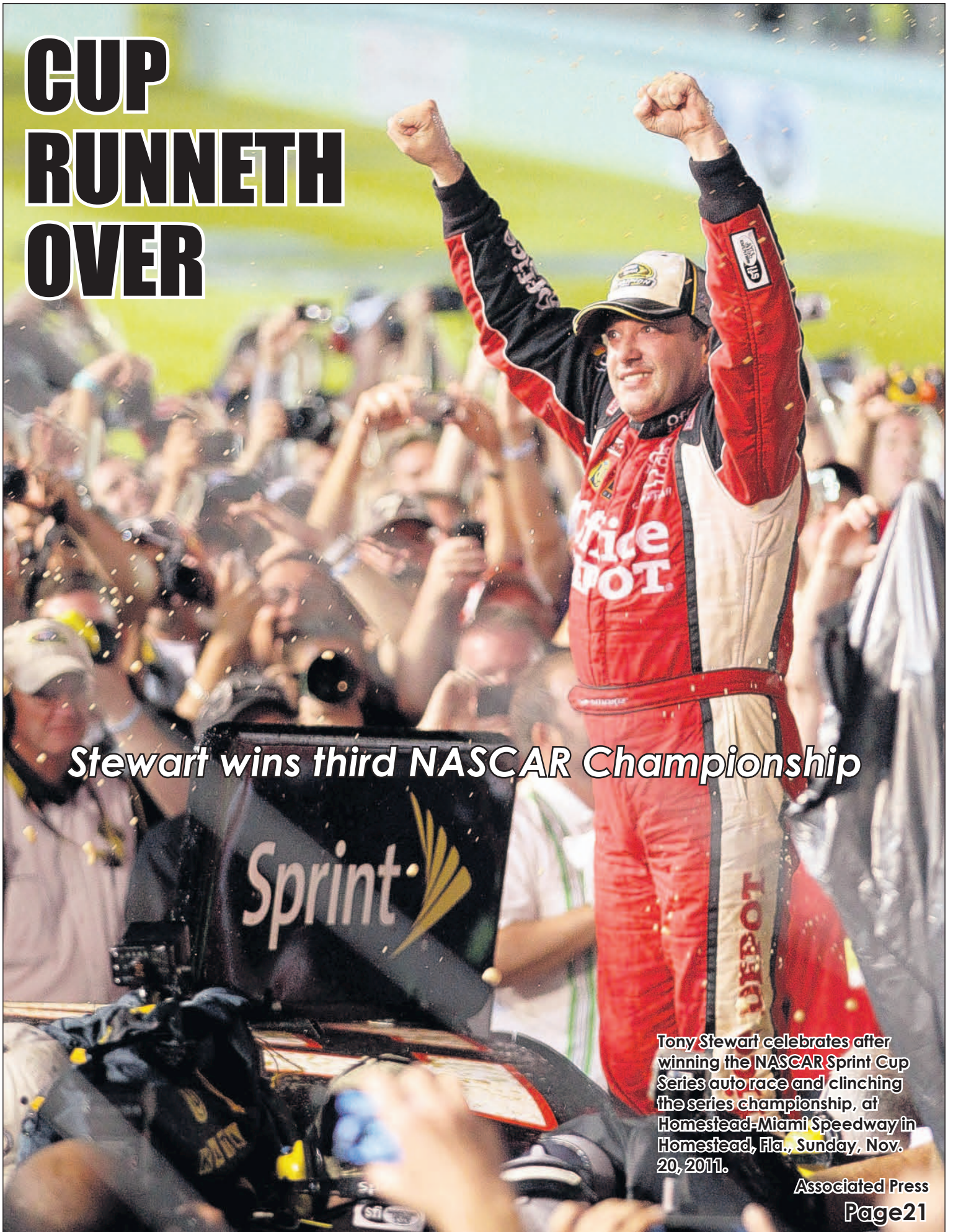
LONDON (AP) — Rafael Nadal toiled for nearly three hours before beating Mardy Fish of the United States 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 (3) at the ATP World Tour Finals on Sunday, while Roger Federer also needed three sets to win his opening match. Defending champion Federer began his quest for a record sixth title at the season-ending event by defeating Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France 6-2, 2-6, 6-4.

In a tense evening match at London's O2 Arena, Fish recovered from a nervous opening set on his debut at the tournament and saved two match points at 5-4 down in the third set, but Nadal edged it in the tie-breaker.

Group A begins Monday with Andy Murray facing David Ferrer, and top-seeded Novak Djokovic against Tomas Berdych.

Continued on Next Page

CUP RUNNETH OVER



Stewart wins third NASCAR Championship

Tony Stewart celebrates after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race and clinching the series championship, at Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead, Fla., Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011.

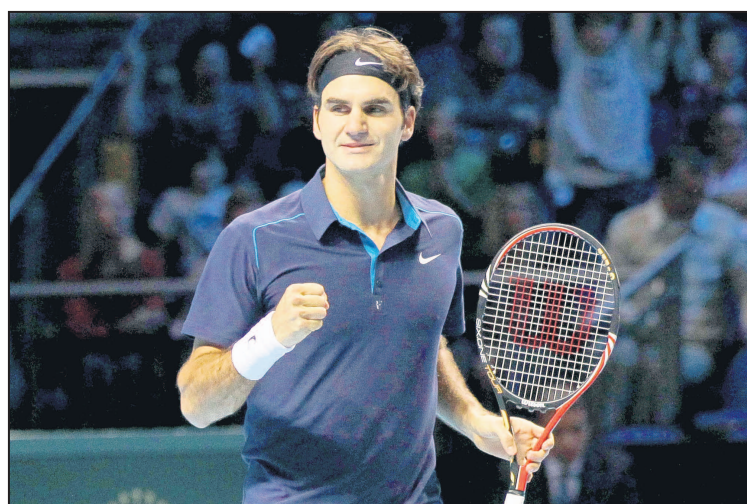
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ATP Finals Continued from Page 17

By the time Nadal and Fish walked off court at gone 11.30 p.m. on the opening day of the tournament, many of the 17,000-strong crowd had already left to catch the last train home. The match mirrored the earlier one between Federer and Tsonga. Federer and Nadal both dominated the opening set only to lose the momentum with a loose game early in the second set.

Tsonga dramatically wilted when serving to stay in the match at 5-4 in the decider, while several mis-hit forehands in the tiebreaker did the damage for Fish. Federer and Nadal will now face each other for the 26th time in their long rivalry on Tuesday. Federer beat the Spaniard in last year's final but has lost all of their three meetings in 2011.

Fish, who qualified for the



Switzerland's Roger Federer reacts to his win over Jo-Wilfried Tsonga at the end of a round robin single tennis match at the ATP World Tour Finals at O2 Arena in London, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011. Associated Press

eight-player tournament for the first time at the age of 29, arrived in London with concerns about a hamstring injury, while Nadal was back in action after a five-week break.

Nadal, dressed all in charcoal gray for the evening match, made Fish wait in his chair as he had his finger taped by the trainer after the warmup and the American made a nervous start

as he dropped serve in the opening game.

Nadal dominated the opening set but Fish found his range on the forehand and, combining it with some deft volleys and delicate drop shots, the eighth-seeded American took the match into a decider.

Nadal began to feel the heat. He dashed off for a bathroom break after taking a 2-0 lead in the decider

and returned to drop serve as Fish ended the game with a perfectly judged half volley to break back.

Sticking with his attacking game, Fish did what Tsonga earlier failed to manage by saving two match points at 5-4, but his form dipped in the all-important tiebreaker and Nadal came through. In Federer, Nadal faces a player on a 13-match winning streak following titles in Basel and Paris, where the No. 4-ranked Swiss beat Tsonga in straight sets in the final a week ago.

The 16-time Grand Slam champion looked ready for another comfortable win when he took the first set in 21 minutes, but Tsonga found his feet and broke early in the second set before taking the match into a decider.

A closely fought third set ended when the pressure seemed to get to Tsonga. Trailing 5-4, he was broken at 15 and Federer chalked up his third straight win over Tsonga since back-to-back

losses at Wimbledon and Montreal.

"Today I had flashes of that match," Federer said of his five-set loss to Tsonga in the Wimbledon quarter-finals. "I didn't have much of a chance for a while on his serve. You just try your best." Nadal, unusually, was court-side to see the end of the Federer-Tsonga match, joining football stars Thierry Henry and Andrey Arshavin in the crowd.

Instead of supporting fellow Frenchman Tsonga, former Arsenal striker Henry sat alongside Federer's wife Mirka.

"We're good friends," Federer said. "I think he's just happy to come and see me play once in a while. It was nice to catch up with him again."

Federer has now won at least 60 matches for nine straight years, and extended his career record over Tsonga to 7-3.

"It's not always in your control when you play Jo," Federer said. □



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Sid Crosby to return on Monday against Islanders

By WILL GRAVES

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Sid the Kid is back.

Pittsburgh Penguins superstar Sidney Crosby will make his season debut on Monday against the New York Islanders, his first game in nearly a year since being sidelined with concussion-like symptoms.

Crosby hasn't played since taking head shots in consecutive games in January against Washington and Tampa Bay.

The 2007 NHL MVP spent the last 10 months undergoing a painstakingly thorough rehabilitation that left him wondering when — or even if — he'd play again and forced the league to take a harsher stance when it comes to policing head hits.

His return ends weeks of speculation that appeared to put the ever-polite Crosby on edge but hardly bothered his teammates. The 24-year-old declined repeated interview

requests in recent weeks as the speculation about a possible return date reached a fever pitch.

Crosby missed the remainder of the 2010-11 season after taking a hit from Tampa Bay's Victor Hedman on Jan. 5. The expected brief absence turned into an extended one that rendered him a spectator for Pittsburgh's loss to the Lightning in the opening round of the playoffs.

He vowed to be ready for training camp but spent much of the summer in seclusion in his native Canada, his silence fueling speculation his career may be in jeopardy.

Crosby came forward in September and — flanked by the two doctors who have overseen his recovery — said it was "likely" he would be back this season. He began training camp wearing a white helmet to signify he wasn't to be hit, working feverishly for a month before switching to

a black helmet after being cleared for contact on Oct. 13. Coach Dan Bylsma preached caution, though his teammates did their best to accommodate their captain, jostling with him in practice when given the opportunity.

Crosby only missed one skate since camp began in September, skipping a practice in Los Angeles on Nov. 5 so he could travel back east to visit with his medical team. His teammates stressed there was no need for Crosby to rush, and the Penguins have been one of the league's top teams through the season's first six weeks.

Pittsburgh entered Friday atop the Eastern Conference behind the crisp goaltending of Marc-Andre Fleury and a dynamic offense led by Evgeni Malkin and James Neal.

Yet the Penguins understand they're not the same without Crosby.

"We know what he means



In this Jan. 5, 2011, photo, Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby (87) waits for a resumption in play against the Tampa Bay Lightning during an NHL hockey game in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

to this team, this city," defenseman Kris Letang said. "He's a special player."

One that spent months dealing with "fogginess" that at times made it difficult for him to drive or watch television. He also endured painful migraines and likened the recovery process to a roller coaster. The ride appears to be finally pulling into the station, sending Crosby out into the great unknown.

For all the steps he's taken during his recovery, the real test will come when he gets hit for the first time at full speed. Though the nature of the game may be changing thanks in part to Crosby's ordeal.

New discipline czar Brendan Shanahan, only three years removed from his playing days, has been suspending players for taking unnecessary head shots at opponents. □

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SEC rules: LSU, Bama, Arkansas top AP rankings

By RALPH D. RUSSO

NEW YORK (AP) — The latest AP college football poll gives a new meaning to the term all-SEC.

The Southeastern Conference is the second league to have the top three spots in ranking all to itself.

No. 1 LSU held the top spot for the ninth straight week in Sunday's rankings, and after a weekend when three other top-five teams lost, Alabama moved up a spot to No. 2 and Arkansas jumped three places to No. 3.

The only other time in the 75-year history of The Associated Press rankings that the top three teams all came from the same conference was the final regular-season poll of 1971, when Nebraska, Oklahoma and Colorado from the Big Eight were 1-2-3.

And this time it's not just one conference, but one division (the SEC West) holding down the top spots. No. 4 Stanford from the Pac-12 is the first non-SEC team in the rankings and Oklahoma State dropped from No. 2 to No. 5 after its first loss of the season. The Cowboys lost 37-31 in double overtime at



LSU head coach Les Miles celebrates with his team following their 52-3 win over Mississippi in an NCAA college football game in Oxford, Miss., on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011.

Associated Press

Iowa State on Friday night. That opened the door for Alabama to move up to No. 2.

"You're excited to see things like that of course because at Alabama we play for championships, that's what we do," defensive end Damion Square said after Alabama's easy victory against Georgia Southern on Saturday.

Little did Square realize the situation was about to get even better for Alabama and the SEC.

Oregon lost 38-35 at home to USC that night and Oklahoma fell at Baylor 45-38.

The last time three of the

top five teams lost on the same weekend was Oct. 11, 2008, when No. 1 Oklahoma lost to No. 5 Texas; No. 3 Missouri lost to No. 17 Oklahoma State; and No. 4 LSU lost to No. 11 Florida.

Oregon slipped five spots to ninth with its second loss of the season. Oklahoma dropped from No. 5 to No. 12.

No. 6 was Virginia Tech, followed by Boise State, Houston, Oregon and Southern California at No. 10.

The Trojans, at one time a fixture in the top 10, have their best ranking since the middle of the 2009 season.

Houston has its best ranking since 1990, when David Klingler and the Cougars were as high as No. 3 in the rankings.

Record-breaking quarterback Case Keenum and the current Cougars are the only other unbeaten team in the nation outside of LSU.

Those SEC West powers might not have the top three spots locked up for long.

LSU hosts Arkansas the day after Thanksgiving. Another loss by the Razorbacks, whose only loss so far is to Alabama, would likely knock them back.

Though if Arkansas beats LSU, which beat Alabama, maybe the teams would stay the same but the order would change?

Alabama plays Auburn on Saturday. In the event of a three-way tie for the SEC West title, the BCS standings are used as a tiebreaker to determine which team will play Georgia in the conference title game on Dec. 3 in Atlanta.

The second 10 in the Top 25 starts with No. 11 Michigan State, which has clinched a spot in the first Big Ten championship game.

Oklahoma is followed by No. 13 Georgia, No.

14 South Carolina and Wisconsin.

Kansas State is No. 16. Michigan is No. 17 heading into its rivalry game against unranked Ohio State.

Clemson already has a spot in the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game sewn up, but the Tigers dropped 11 spots in the latest rankings after a 37-13 loss at North Carolina State.

No. 19 is TCU, which has earned no less than a share of the Mountain West Conference title.

No. 20 Penn State will play Wisconsin for the right to play Michigan State in the Big Ten championship.

Baylor's big victory helped Robert Griffin III and the Bears moved up three spots to No. 21.

Nebraska and Notre Dame are tied at No. 22.

No. 24 Virginia beat Florida State 14-13 on Saturday night to move into the AP rankings for the first time since Dec. 2, 2007. The Cavaliers will play Virginia Tech next week for a spot in the ACC title game.

ACC rival Georgia Tech also moved back into the rankings at No. 25.

Florida State and Southern Miss dropped out after losses. □



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Stewart wins Homestead to win NASCAR championship

By JENNA FRYER

HOMESTEAD, Fla. (AP)

— Tony Stewart insisted he wasn't a title contender when NASCAR's championship race began.

When it became clear he actually was a viable threat, he kicked it into another gear and vowed to go for broke in his pursuit of Carl Edwards.

Did he ever.

Stewart used a powerful and relentless drive — some might suggest the best in NASCAR history — on Sunday in the season finale to seize his third NASCAR championship. He overcame a hole in the grill of his Chevrolet, a rain delay, used debatable fuel strategy and made 118 passes on the track to win at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Edwards, who started the race with a three-point lead in the standings, did everything he could from the minute he arrived in Florida. His Roush-Fenway Racing team put his Ford on the pole, he led a race-high 119 of the 267 laps and still finished a helpless second.

The two actually ended up tied in the final standings — a NASCAR first — but Stewart won the title based on his five victories, all in the 10-race Chase for the Sprint Cup championship — to Edwards' one.

Stewart became the first owner/driver to win the championships since the late Alan Kulwicki in 1992, and the driver to end Jimmie Johnson's record five-year title run. His last title was in 2005, the year before Johnson's began his reign. "Are you kidding me?" Stewart asked in Victory Lane. "We said all week

we'd just go out and win the race and didn't have to worry about what (Edwards) did. If this doesn't go down as one of the greatest championship battles in history, I don't know what will.

"If this doesn't go down as one of the greatest championship battles in history, I don't know what is."

Edwards was disappointed but held his head high after the race.

"This night is about Tony Stewart. Those guys rose to the occasion, and they beat us fair and square," Edwards said. "That is all I had. We came here and sat on the pole, led the most laps and Tony still managed. That's it. That's all I got at the end. That's as hard as I can drive."

"I told my wife, 'If I can't win this thing, I'm going to be the best loser NASCAR has ever had.' So, I'm going to try really hard to keep my head up and know that we'll just go next year and we'll be just as hard to beat."

As third-place finisher Martin Truex Jr. did his post-race news conference, Edwards sat silently off to the side, his eyes fixated on a bank of televisions showing Stewart's championship celebration.

"If I could do it all over again, there's nothing I could have done differently," he whispered. "That's my maximal effort, and Tony beat us. We knew that of all the circumstances possible, this was the least probable. But I was prepared for this."

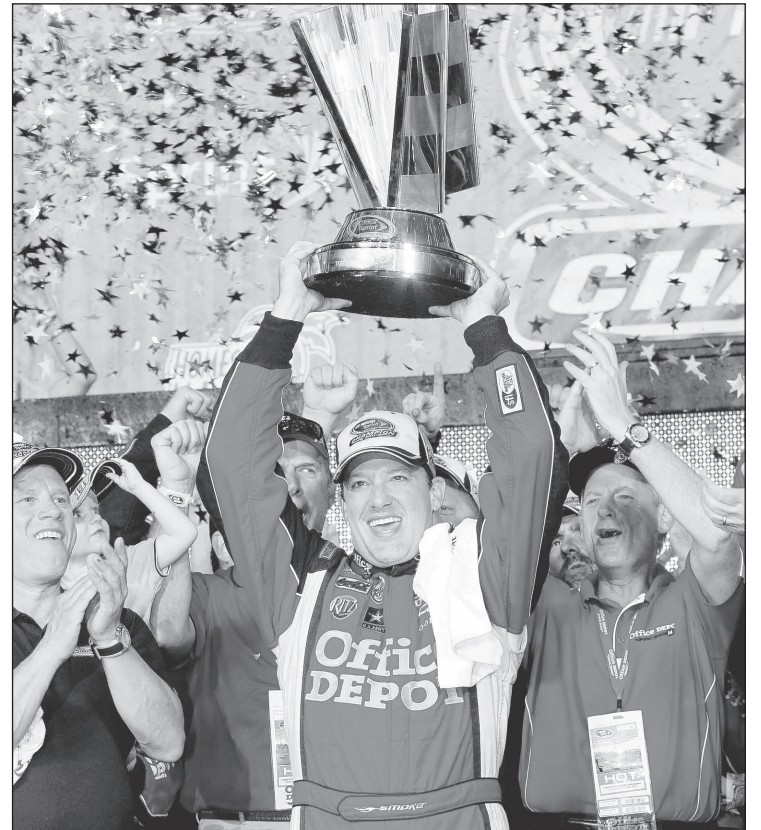
Edwards, despite being the most consistent driver this season and points leader for 21 weeks, has been on

the ropes the last month as Stewart turned up his energy, effort and trash-talking. His quick wit and sharp tongue kept the entire industry entertained as he did everything possible to get inside Edwards' head. Maybe it was really for Stewart's benefit, a driver trying to talk himself into believing he had a shot at the title after struggling all summer long. He maybe didn't rattle Edwards, but Stewart for sure talked himself into this title.

He arrived in Miami insistent he'd race with nothing to lose, and did just that from the moment the race began. He was moving through the field from his 15th starting spot when caution came out 14 laps into the race. His Stewart-Haas Racing crew discovered a hole in his grill, and the repairs dropped him to 40th in the field.

Stewart then blew by car after car and was up to 23rd in a matter of minutes. Another caution sent him into the pits for more repairs, and he restarted in 32nd.

His yapping then resumed, as he scoffed on his radio how embarrassed Edwards and the No. 99 team would be when Stewart drove from the back of the field — twice! — to beat them. □



Tony Stewart holds up the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series season-championship trophy after he won Sunday's auto race at Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead, Fla., Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011.

Associated Press

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Tiger gets winning point, Couples gets validation

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— The winning point for Tiger Woods. A perfect record for Jim Furyk.

And validation for U.S. captain Fred Couples.

The Americans won the Presidents Cup as a team, 19-15, avenging their worst loss ever in any cup competition 13 years ago on a Royal Melbourne course that lived up to its reputation as among the greatest tests in golf.

Yet even as they gathered around the gold trophy at the closing ceremony Sunday afternoon, all of them dressed in red shirts and blue blazers, it was hard to ignore the singular achievements.

Couples was criticized in some corners for picking Woods, who had fallen out of the top 50 for the first time in 15 years and had gone two years without winning.

Even the International team captain, Greg Norman, said he would have taken PGA champion Keegan Bradley.

So perhaps it was only fitting that it was Woods who blasted out of a deep bunker on the 15th hole to put away Aaron Baddeley and give the Americans the point they needed to win the Presidents Cup.

Couples was among the



The U.S. team captain Fred Couples, left in front row, and his team celebrate with the Presidents Cup trophy after winning the Presidents Cup golf tournament at Royal Melbourne Golf Course in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011.

first to greet him, shadow boxing with the guy he called "the best player in the world forever."

"I'm thankful that he picked me," Woods said. "Greg is probably not happy about it after I closed out the cup today. But it's great to be a part of this team. I'm thankful that Freddie believed in me to be a part of this team. This is just a great bunch of guys."

Woods was solid for five matches, even though he was rewarded with only two points. On another tough day of strong winds and super slick greens, he made six birdies — the most in any of the 12 singles matches — and earned

the clinching point for the second straight time.

"A lot of people have asked why I picked him and how he was going to play," Couples said. "Certainly I couldn't answer how he was going to play, but this week I think he showed to himself that his swing is back and he's healthy. And that's more important to me. Obviously, we want to win the cup. But it's more important for me to have people realize that he can play the game."

If there was any concern, it might have been Furyk.

Furyk had his worst full season since he was a rookie, failing to win a tournament or come even close, only securing a spot on the

team in the final hour. He teamed with Phil Mickelson three times, Nick Watney once and was at his best by himself against Ernie Els to become only the fourth player to go 5-0 in the Presidents Cup.

The others were Woods in 2009, Shigeki Maruyama in 1998 and Mark O'Meara in 1996.

"Knowing Phil for as many years as I have ... I'm guessing he asked to play with me, because I struggled so much this year and played poorly — the worst of anyone sitting up here right now," Furyk said. "I assume that he asked to play with me because he felt like he could get a lot out of me this week, that maybe he

could pump some confidence into me.

And he did that."

The Americans took a 13-9 lead into the final day — only the U.S. team at the Ryder Cup in 1999 at Brookline had come back from a deficit that large to win — and Couples decided to put his veterans at the back of the lineup.

There was early cause for concern.

K.T. Kim, Masters champion Charl Schwartzel and Ryo Ishikawa built big leads early as the raucous Australian crowd came to life. Geoff Ogilvy knocked in a 60-foot putt on the 12th hole in the fourth match as the scoreboard filled up with blue numbers.

"I started to think, 'Wow, this is going to be some day,'" Couples said.

But veterans Woods, Furyk, David Toms and Steve Stricker didn't let him down. Stricker, competing for the first time in nearly two months because of a neck injury, closed out Y.E. Yang for the final point.

The Americans not only won the cup for the fourth straight time, but it was the third consecutive win by at least four points. They now lead the series 7-1-1 and earned a small measure of revenge for the last time Down Under.

Ogilvy and Schwartzel led the way for the International team, each with a 3-1-1 record.

In one of the more classier moments, Haas decided not to concede a 15-foot putt to Ogilvy on the last hole, even though he had three putts to win the match. Haas wanted to give him the chance to make it before his home crowd in Melbourne. Ogilvy missed. □

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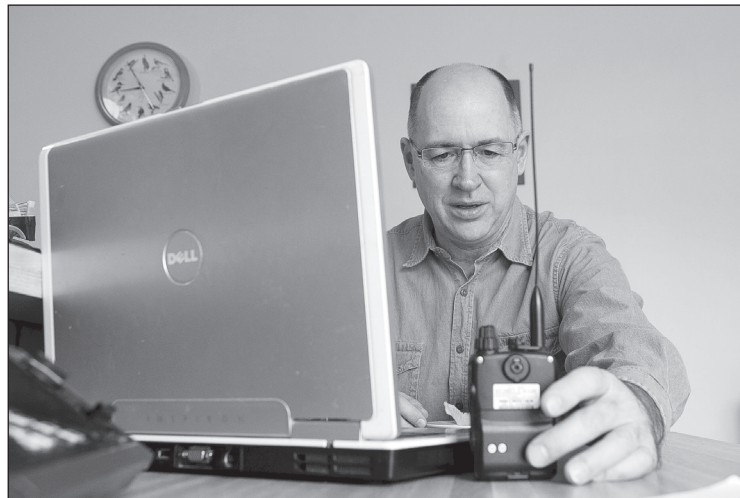


More police departments look to tune public out

By ERIC TUCKER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police departments around the country are working to shield their radio communications from the public as cheap, user-friendly technology has made it easy for anyone to use handheld devices to keep tabs on officers responding to crimes. The practice of encryption has grown more common from Florida to New York and west to California, with law enforcement officials saying they want to keep criminals from using officers' internal chatter to evade them. But journalists and neighborhood watchdogs say open communications ensure that the public receives information that can be vital to their safety as quickly as possible. D.C. police moved to join the trend this fall after what Chief Cathy Lanier said were several incidents involving criminals and smartphones. Carjackers operating on Capitol Hill were believed to have been listening to emergency communications because they were only captured once police stopped broadcasting over the radio, she said. And drug dealers at a laundromat fled the building after a sergeant used open airwaves to direct other units there — suggesting, she said, that they too were listening in. "Whereas listeners used to be tied to stationary scanners, new technology has allowed people — and especially criminals — to listen to police communications on a smartphone from anywhere," Lanier testified

at a D.C. Council committee hearing this month. "When a potential criminal can evade capture and learn, 'There's an app for that,' it's time to change our practices." The transition has put police departments at odds with the news media, who say their newsgathering is impeded when they can't use scanners to monitor developing crimes and disasters. Journalists and scanner hobbyists argue that police departments already have the capability to communicate securely and should be able to adjust to the times without reverting to full encryption. And they say alert scanner listeners have even helped police solve crimes. "If the police need to share sensitive information among themselves, they know how to do it," Phil Metlin, news director of WTTG-TV, in Washington, said at the council hearing. "Special encrypted channels have been around for a long time; so have cell phones." It's impossible to quantify the scope of the problem or to determine if the threat from scanners is as legitimate as police maintain — or merely a speculative fear. It's certainly not a new concern — after all, hobbyists have for years used scanners to track the activities of their local police department from their kitchen table. David Schoenberger, a stay-at-home dad from Fredericksburg, Va., and scanner hobbyist, said he understands Lanier's concerns — to a point.



Scanner hobbyist Rick Hansen holds his scanner/Ham radio device at his home Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011, in Silver Spring, Md. In an effort to restrict access to their internal communications police departments around the nation are moving to encrypt them.

Associated Press

"I think they do need to encrypt the sensitive talk groups, like the vice and narcotics, but I disagree strongly with encrypting the routine dispatch and patrol talk groups. I don't think that's right," he said. "I think the public has a right to monitor them and find out what's going on around them. They pay the salaries and everything." There's no doubt that it's increasingly easy to listen in on police radios. One iPhone app, Scanner 911, offers on its website the chance to "listen in while police, fire and EMS crews work day & night." Apple's iTunes' store advertises several similar apps. One promises to keep users abreast of crime in their communities.

police dispatch channels through streaming services, said Matthew Blaze, director of the Distributed Systems Laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania and a researcher of security and privacy in computing and communications systems. The shift to encryption has occurred as departments replace old-fashioned analog radios with digital equipment that sends the voice signal over the air as a stream of bits and then reconstructs it into high-quality audio. □

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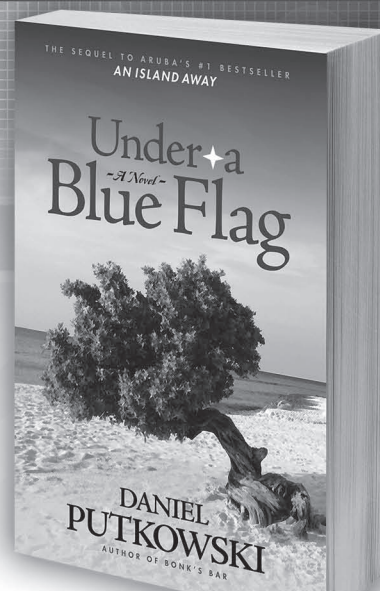


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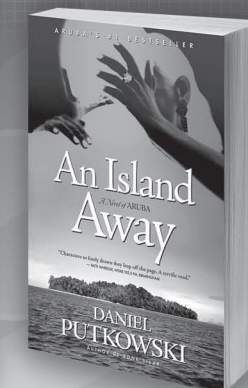
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This year's holiday shoppers more driven by discounts

Steve Raabe

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The Denver Post - The zeal for a deal is driving consumers to new levels of holiday discount hunting.

Lingering concerns about the health of the nation's economy have shoppers tightening their spending and searching even harder than last year for bargains on gifts.

"The American consumer has become much more discount-oriented than ever before," said retail analyst Ken Perkins of Retail Metrics. "Consumers have been in a pretty sour mood, not optimistic about the economy and their own personal financial situations."

Just how deal-conscious are shoppers? Enough that 55 percent of surveyed consumers said they may purchase a holiday gift through an online group-

buying site such as Groupon or LivingSocial, according to Discover Financial Services.

A year ago, just 22 percent said they would consider the group promotions.

The drive for discounts that accelerated after the recession persists this year as unemployment rates have declined only marginally and U.S. household incomes have fallen an average of 6.7 percent since 2009. "It's bleak," said Patricia Ciamfarini, shopping recently at a Denver Kmart. "Gift-buying is pretty much not happening this year. I had thought that things (economically) would be settling into place, but it's still really tough."

The 60-year-old employee of a cyber-security firm said she will target her holiday spending by offering to pay her nieces' and nephews' cellphone bills for a few



The zeal for a deal is driving consumers to new levels of holiday discount hunting. Lingering concerns about the health of the nation's economy have shoppers tightening their spending and searching even harder than last year for bargains on gifts.

months instead of buying store gifts.

And the budget for her big annual holiday contribution - buying toys to donate to the Toys for Tots program - will go down to about \$300 this year compared with \$700 last year.

Another Kmart shopper, Helena Peterson, said she'll

buy nothing without a substantial discount.

"It's hard to cut back more from what I've already cut back," she said. "But I'm going to have to stretch my dollar farther. You won't be seeing me at Neiman Marcus."

The Discover Financial Services survey of 1,000 con-

sumers nationwide showed that 44 percent of shoppers will limit purchases to items that have "deep sales," up from 35 percent last year.

Fifty-five percent said they will seek special incentives such as free shipping.

"Today's shoppers are just savvier than ever," said Sarah Alter, a Discover vice president. "It's been a tough few years. They expect and need to see value in everything they buy."

The National Retail Federation is forecasting an overall 2.8 percent increase in sales to \$465.6 billion. Yet on a per-capita basis, individual shoppers will spend 4.6 percent less than last year on gifts, while spending more on themselves. Retail analyst Perkins said merchants learned a costly lesson at the onset of the recession when they were saddled with high inventories and weak sales. □

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TD Bank to close three branches in Mass.

Todd Wallack

© 2011 The Boston Globe

TD Bank, one of the largest regional banks on the East Coast, plans to close seven branches in February, including three in Massachusetts, a spokesman said.

The decision follows similar moves by banks across the country as they try to streamline branch networks, reduce duplication, and cut costs. Banks are under pressure to lower expenses because of the weak economy and new regulations, such as ones limiting service fees from overdrafts, debit cards, and credit cards.

In Massachusetts, TD Bank told regulators it plans to close two full-service branches in Essex and Salisbury. In addition, it plans to close a part-time office in a nursing home in South Yarmouth, as well as a drive-through for its Washington Street branch in Gloucester.

Elsewhere, TD Bank, a unit of Toronto-Dominion Bank in Canada, said it plans to close four other branches



A TD Bank logo offered to show how convenient their company is to bank with. TD Bank, one of the largest regional banks on the East Coast, plans to close seven branches in February, including three in Massachusetts, a spokesman said.

in Norwalk, Conn., Hackensack, N.J., White Plains, N.Y., and Rutland, Vt.

"It's part of an effort to be more efficient," said bank spokesman Jimmy Hernandez. "It was a business decision."

Hernandez noted that the branch that is closing in Salisbury is just 2 miles from a larger branch in Amesbury. And the one in Essex is 4 miles from a branch in Ipswich. TD Bank has 1,275

locations in 15 states and the District of Columbia, including about 150 in Massachusetts.

Nationwide, analysts say, banks have been closing branches faster than they have been opening new ones as customers increasingly use ATMs, online banking, and other alternatives to traditional branches.

Bank of America, the largest bank in Massachusetts and one of the largest

in the nation, has said it plans to close roughly 1 in 10 branches nationwide by 2014, including some in Massachusetts. Bank of America closed five branches in the state this year and plans to close another in West Springfield in February.

Bank of America spokeswoman Tara A. Burke declined to say how many more branches it will close in Massachusetts. But, she said, the bank will continue to consolidate if branches serve too few customers or if it makes more sense to offer standalone ATMs.

Despite the closings, TD Bank and other banks say they will build new branches in selected markets. TD Bank, for instance, added a dozen branches in the Boston area in the last two years. Capital One Financial Corp., which doesn't have branches in Massachusetts, has filed plans to open four offices in Boston, Brookline, and Newton.

Todd Wallack can be reached at [twallack\(AT\)globe.com](mailto:twallack@twallack(AT)globe.com).

Doubts threaten broader markets

NELSON D. SCHWARTZ

GRAHAM BOWLEY

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Despite one negative headline from Europe after another, the stock market in the United States has held up pretty well lately, rising 10 percent since the beginning of October. But that could change this week, amid mounting investor doubt about the ability of political leaders on both sides of the Atlantic to slash spending and control budget deficits.

With deficit reduction talks all but dead in Washington and several bond auctions by fiscally shaky governments on the Continent this week, market specialists say the coming days may well be treacherous, especially if legislators in the U.S. do not agree on a plan to reduce the deficit.

That prospect looked increasingly likely. Despite the occasional sharp sell-off in the markets, investors have mostly been hoping for the best. In the U.S., that means a blueprint for savings and a respite from wrangling over government spending, while in Europe the hope is that the European Central Bank will do more to shore up faltering borrowers like Italy and Spain.

But in each case, the likelihood of bad news outweighs the chances of a breakthrough, said Adam Parker, Morgan Stanley's chief U.S. equity strategist.

"It should make people nervous," Parker said. "There is a feedback loop between Europe and the rest of the world and that can slow growth."

Greece's creditors insist on written guarantees

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greece's creditors have insisted that all three political parties backing Prime Minister Lucas Papademos' coalition government confirm in writing their support for October's second European bailout deal.

Giorgos Karatzaferis, leader of the populist-right Popular Orthodox Rally (LAOS) party, said Sunday that the creditors' position is "totally rigid," while Conservative Antonis Samaras says he supports the latest bailout deal, but has refused the creditors' demand — calling it demeaning and unnecessary.

Karatzaferis met Sunday with a team of envoys from the European Commission, the ECB and the IMF.

The third coalition partner, the formerly ruling socialists, has agreed.

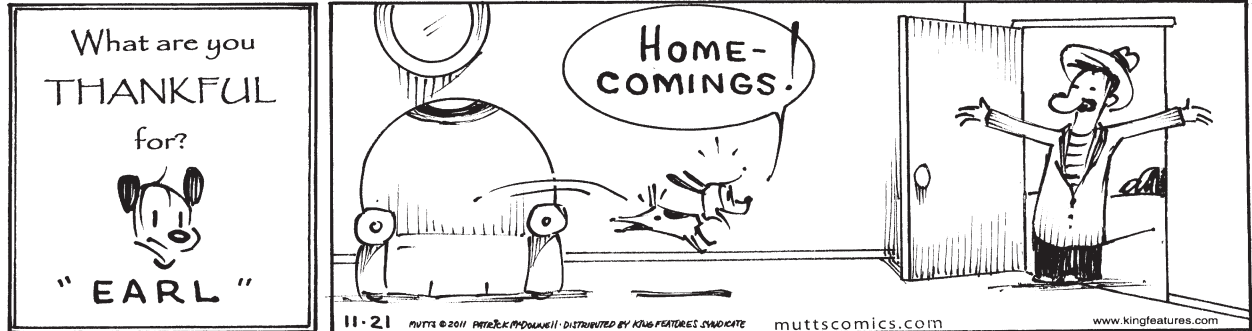
Creditors have threatened Greece with withholding an €8 billion (\$10.86 billion) installment from the first bailout package.



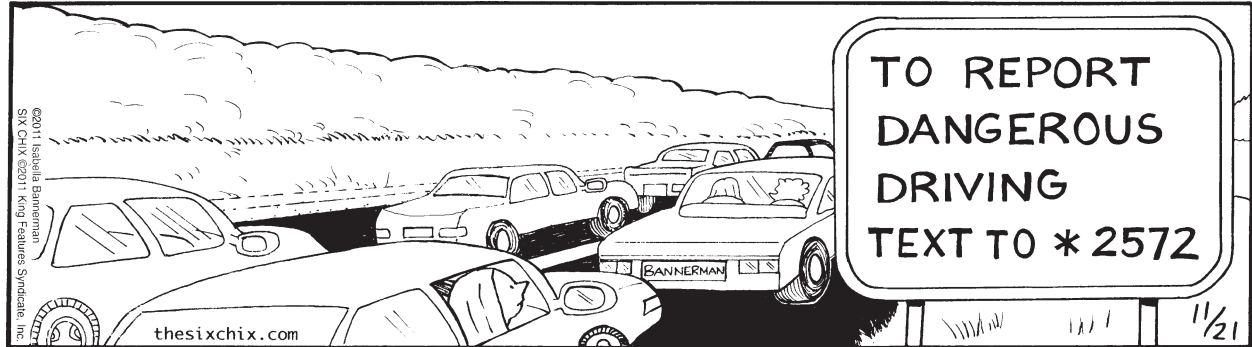
IMF representative Bob Traa, left, talks to Poul Thomsen, the director of the IMF's mission to Greece, after a meeting with the populist right Popular Orthodox Rally (LAOS) party leader, Giorgos Karatzaferis, at the Greek Parliament in Athens Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011.

(AP Photo/Kostas Tsironis)

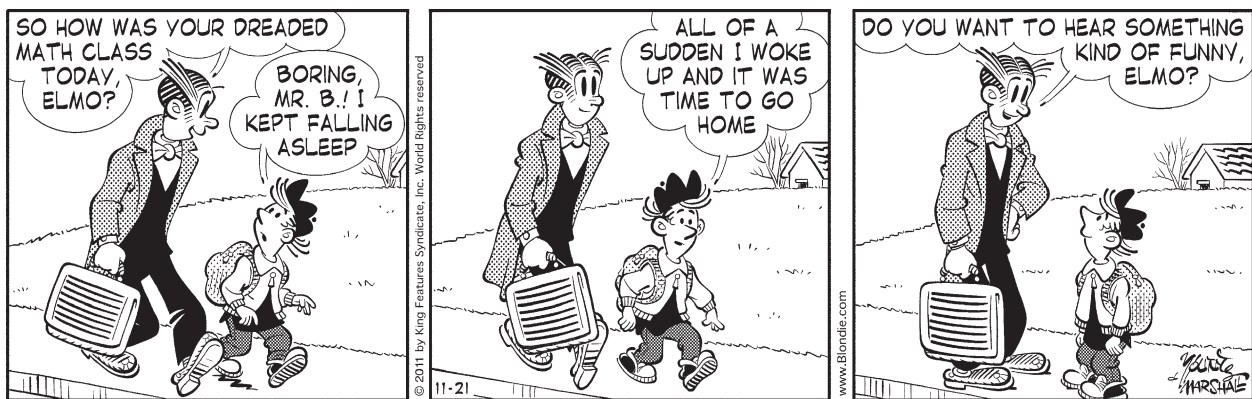
Mutts



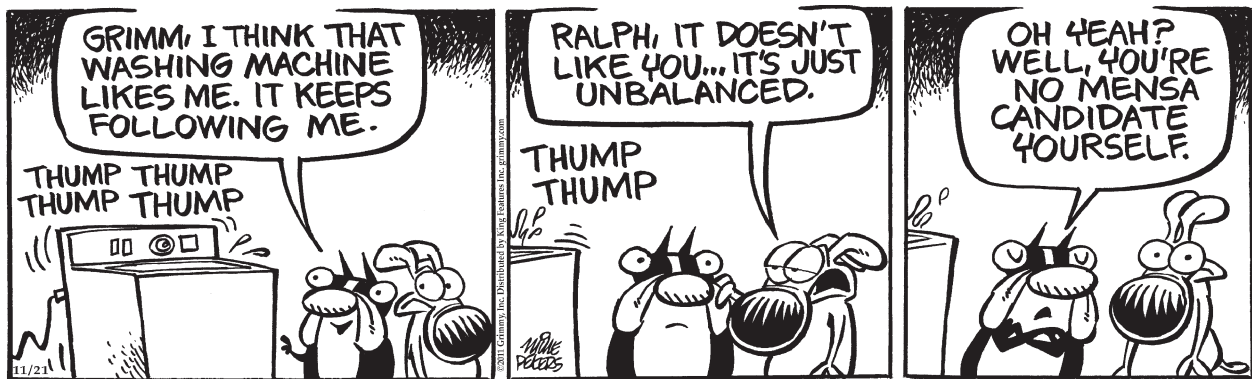
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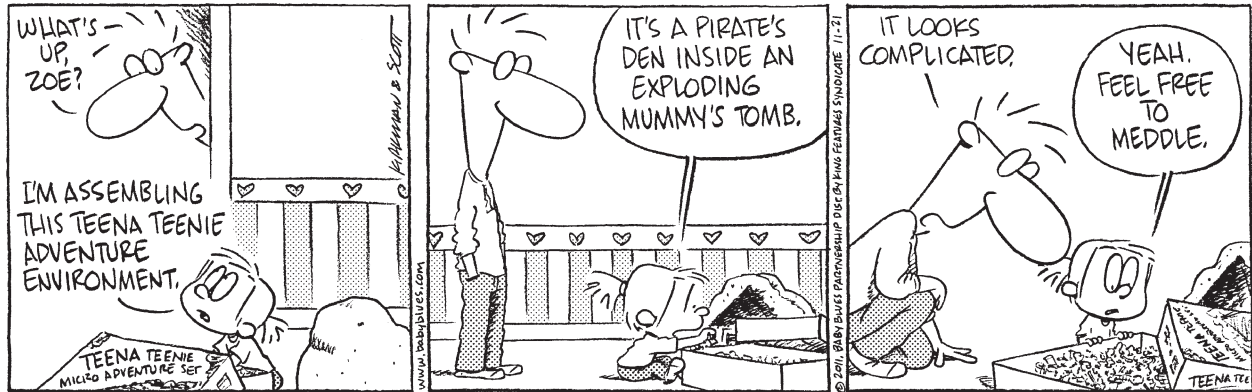
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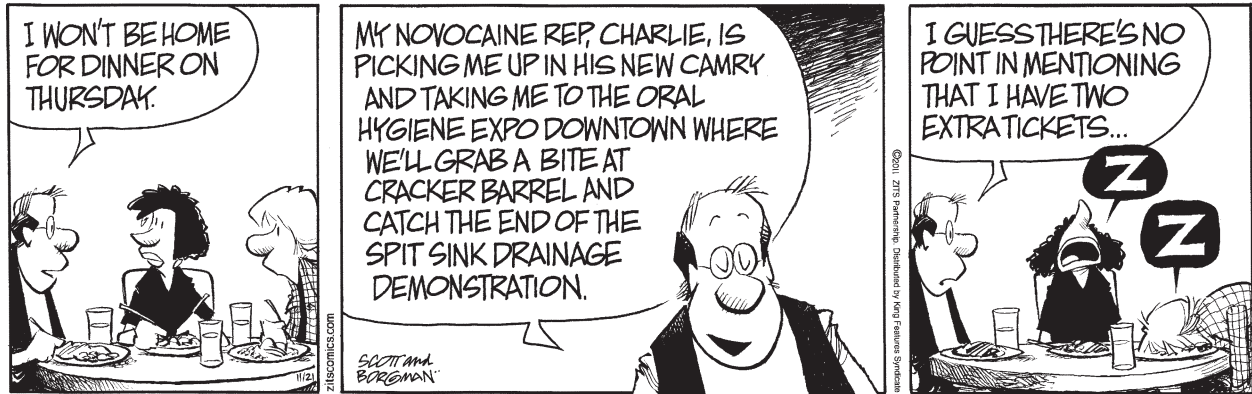
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	9	5	8		6	2	1	
2				9				3
7								9
5			1	3				6
	8						7	
3			7	9				8
6								5
9				7				4
	3	7	9		5	6	2	

Difficulty Level ★ 11/21

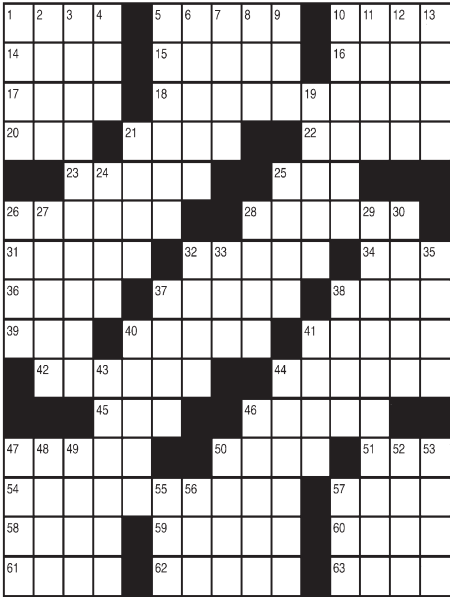
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

2	6	8	1	4	7	9	3	5
3	1	5	6	9	8	2	4	7
9	4	7	5	2	3	8	1	6
1	5	9	8	3	2	6	7	4
8	7	3	4	6	9	5	2	1
6	2	4	7	5	1	3	9	8
7	3	1	9	8	5	4	6	2
4	8	2	3	7	6	1	5	9
5	9	6	2	1	4	7	8	3

ACROSS

- 1 Annoyingly self-satisfied
- 5 Unwanted bit
- 10 Fly high
- 14 Cat-o'- -tails; knotted whip
- 15 Self-confidence
- 16 Optimism
- 17 Knickknack
- 18 Stressed
- 20 John Ritter's pa
- 21 High point
- 22 Pays attention
- 23 Hooded jacket
- 25 Singer - Tillis
- 26 Small bony fishes
- 28 More daring
- 31 Shoe tie-ups
- 32 Pinkish color
- 34 Dick - Dyke
- 36 Crawling bugs
- 37 Unit of fineness for gold
- 38 City in Texas
- 39 Lemon meringue
- 40 - closet; hall cabinet, often
- 41 Warsaw natives
- 42 Stick; cling
- 44 Overcast
- 45 Furniture wood
- 46 Zahn or Abdul
- 47 Actress Bonet and others
- 50 Ice afloat
- 51 Cheap metal
- 54 Pleas
- 57 Blaze
- 58 Four top cards
- 59 Military gun salute
- 60 - up; turn on a computer
- 61 Notre - Cathedral
- 62 Primp
- 63 Travelers' stops



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 11/21/11

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

AMAZE	AWAY	CAST
MORON	TALE	ODOR
PRIDE	ONES	ROLE
SEDIMENT	MADRAS	
	AIDE	CALLERS
FENCED	BINGE	
APPE	SIDED	ASKED
TIER	EAGER	SIRE
SCREW	RARER	WIN
	SHEEN	BASICS
FOSTERS	BETH	
INTONE	FALTERED	
NEAR	CRIB	REEDY
DALE	TUNE	ADAGE
SLED	SEES	PYRES

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DOWN

- 1 In a -; vexed
- 2 Tiny arachnid
- 3 Occurring out of the blue
- 4 Topaz or ruby
- 5 Tiny dots

- 40 Rent long-term
- 41 Stopper
- 43 Raspy-voiced
- 44 Johnny, once of late-night TV
- 46 Irritate
- 47 Pencil's center
- 48 Peruvian Indian
- 49 Flower stalk
- 50 Liver secretion
- 52 Press, as clothes
- 53 New Jersey hoopsters
- 55 Deadly viper
- 56 Paver's goo
- 57 J. Edgar Hoover's agcy.

Today In History



Today is Bjork's birthday

Today is Monday, November 21, the 325th day of 2011. There are 40 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1620 - The Mayflower ship, carrying the first permanent European settlers to New England, lands in what is now Provincetown, Massachusetts.

1783 - The first manned balloon flight sails over Paris for 25 minutes.

1806 - Napoleon Bonaparte of France issues Berlin Decrees, declaring blockade of Britain.

1877 - American Thomas A. Edison announces invention of the phonograph.

1922 - Rebecca L. Felton of Georgia is sworn in as the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate.

1938 - Western border areas of Czechoslovakia are forcibly incorporated into German Reich.

1958 - A Soviet-East German commission meets in East Berlin to discuss the transfer to East German control of Soviet functions and end to the occupation status in Berlin.

1962 - China agrees to a ceasefire on India-China border.

1963 - Roman Catholic Vatican Council authorizes use of vernacular instead of Latin in the Sacraments.

1976 - Syrian army completes its final phase of occupation of Lebanon.

1977 - An estimated 3,000 people are believed to have perished in cyclone that strikes southeastern India, submerging entire villages in tidal waves.

1980 - A fire at the MGM Grand Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas kills 87 people.

1985 - Former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst Jonathan Jay Pollard is arrested and accused of spying for Israel. He pleads guilty and is sentenced to life in prison.

1987 - Riot police stand guard to prevent violence by rival supporters as presidential candidates in South Korea trade charges of corruption and cruelty.

1990 - Michael R. Milken, Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc.'s former "junk-bond" chief, is sentenced to ten years in prison. It is the most severe sentence handed down in a series of Wall Street securities fraud cases dating from 1986.

1991 - The U.N. Security Council chooses Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt to be the new secretary-general.

1992 - U.S. Senator Bob Packwood of Oregon issues an apology but refuses to discuss allegations that he made unwelcome sexual advances to 10 women over the years.

1993 - Three former Panamanian soldiers are found guilty of involvement in the previously unsolved 1971 murder of Hector Gallego, a Colombian Roman Catholic priest.

1994 - NATO retaliates for repeated Serb attacks

on a U.N. safe haven by bombing an airfield in a Serb-controlled section of Croatia.

1995 - Former Nazi Capt. Erich Priebke is extradited from Argentina to Italy to face charges in the massacre of 335 Italian civilians in Nazi-occupied Rome. □

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Himalayan nations agree on climate adaptation plan

By **MUNEEZA NAQVI**

NEW DELHI (AP) — Four Himalayan nations facing the threat of weather changes have agreed to collaborate on ways to adapt to climate change after a two-day summit in Bhutan. India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan were part of the Climate Summit for a Living Himalayas held in Bhutan's capital Thimphu on Saturday. They agreed to cooperate on energy, water, food and biodiversity issues.

"The success of our initiative will not only have direct and immediate benefits for our own people, but we could be setting a worthy precedent for other countries that share similar conditions," Bhutan's Prime Minister Lyonchhoen Jigmi Y. Thinleysaid according to a press statement released late Saturday.

Pakistan, China and Afghanistan were absent from the summit but organizers downplayed that, saying that the summit



In this July 19, 2011 file photograph, Indian army soldiers returning from border posts get a briefing at the Siachen Glacier base camp, in Indian Kashmir on the border with Pakistan.

Associated Press

was focused on securing ecosystems, endangered species, and food and water sources for only the Himalayas' eastern part. The summit called for action amid the international community's inability to agree on limiting

greenhouse gas emissions blamed for global climate change. The next round of U.N. climate talks begin in Durban, South Africa Nov. 28, but the expectations of any breakthrough there are limited.

As part of the declaration the four nations agreed to

work together to increase access to "affordable and reliable" clean energy resources and technology through a regional knowledge sharing mechanism, a press statement from the World Wildlife Fund said.

The draft of the declaration was not immediately avail-

able Sunday.

The most contentious part of the talks dealt with water security, according to the WWF release, but the four nations did agree to work together on ecosystem and disaster management, sharing their knowledge in water use efficiency.

Regional tensions have long prevented Himalayan cooperation, including basic research in the world's largest block of glaciers outside the polar regions, and accounting for 40 percent of the world's fresh water.

There was also consensus on food security and securing livelihoods and the deal covers way to adapt and improve food production and help vulnerable communities get better access to nutritious food.

"These kinds of regional initiatives are really needed," said Liisa Rohweder, CEO of WWF Finland, adding the summit was a good lead to follow for the Durban meeting. □

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'Breaking Dawn' rises to \$283.5M worldwide debut

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn" has staked out another huge opening with a \$139.5 million first weekend domestically and a worldwide launch of \$283.5 million.

The domestic total gives "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 1" the second-best debut weekend for the franchise, after the \$142.8 million launch for 2009's "The Twilight Saga: New Moon." "Breaking Dawn" did more than half of its business, \$72 million, on opening day Friday, while the movie's debut weekend was the fifth-best on record.

Opening in 54 overseas markets, "Breaking Dawn" pulled in \$144 million internationally, according to studio estimates Sunday.

But the Warner Bros. dancing penguin sequel "Happy Feet 2" stumbled in its debut, pulling in just \$22 million over opening weekend. That's barely half what the first film in the animated franchise earned in its 2006 opening.

The comparison is even worse considering the original did not have the sequel's price advantage for 3-D screenings, which cost a few dollars more than 2-D shows. The previous weekend's No. 1 movie, Relativity Media's action tale "Immortals," fell to third-place with \$12.3 million, raising its domestic haul to \$53 million. George Clooney had a great start with Fox Searchlight's comic drama "The Descendants," which broke into the top-10 despite playing in just a handful of theaters.

"The Descendants" finished at No. 10 with \$1.2 million in 29 theaters, averaging a whopping \$42,150 a cinema. That compares to an average of \$34,351 in 4,061 theaters for "Breaking Dawn."

Directed by Alexander Payne ("Sideways"), the film stars Clooney as a distressed dad tending to his daughters after his wife falls into a coma from a head injury. The film expands to about 400 theaters

Wednesday.

In an industry whose main audience is young males, "Twilight" is a rare blockbuster franchise driven by female viewers. Distributor Summit Entertainment reported that women and girls made up 80 percent of the audience for "Breaking Dawn."

The popularity of "Twilight" has left many men scratching their heads, even those involved in releasing the movies.

"I'm 53 years old, and I haven't figured it out yet," said Richie Fay, head of distribution for Summit. "It relates really to young girls and things that are important to them, their romantic ideas of love and relationships, without getting so physical, at least on screen, that it becomes a worry for their parents."

"Breaking Dawn" has brooding teen Bella (Kristen Stewart) marrying vampire lover Edward (Robert Pattinson), whose family strikes an uneasy alliance with jealous werewolf Jacob (Taylor Lautner) to protect the bride and the baby she's carrying.

The movie's big start points to even better business for next year's "Breaking Dawn — Part 2," the finale in the five-film series based on Stephenie Meyer's best-selling novels.

"Breaking Dawn" was a windfall for Hollywood in general, whose domestic revenues continue to trail 2010's despite rosy projections last spring of a record box-office year.

Domestic business totaled \$222 million, up 14 percent from the same weekend last year, when "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" led with \$125 million, according to box-office tracker Hollywood.com. The penguins of "Happy Feet 2" were left in the cold compared with the big debut for the first film, a critical favorite that won the Academy Award for feature animation.

The sequel, featuring returning voice stars Elijah Wood and Robin Williams, received mixed to bad reviews. Still, Warner Bros. □



In this image released by Summit Entertainment, Kristen Stewart, right, and Robert Pattinson are shown in a scene from "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1."

Associated Press

Maroon 5, Taylor Swift win early at AMAs

DERRIK J. LANG

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Maroon 5 and Taylor Swift had the right moves at the American Music Awards: The band and the country princess picked up the first trophies at Sunday's ceremony.

Maroon 5, still riding high off their comeback hit "Moves Like Jagger,"

won for favorite pop-rock band/duo/group. Adam Levine, the band's lead singer and "The Voice" judge, thanked "our incredible fans for making this happen."

Swift won country female artist.

The ceremony inside the Nokia Theatre in an unusually rainy Los Angeles was dripping with musical performances from such acts as The Band Perry, who crooned an emotional "If I Die Young,"

and a platinum-blond Chris Brown, who sang a stripped-down "All Back" before being joined by helmet-clad back-up dancers for a high-energy routine to "Say It With Me."

Nicki Minaj launched the 39th annual fan-favorite

ceremony with a performance featuring tethered back-up dancers, stilt-walking robots and super-

also thanked Swift, a big fan of her "Super Bass" hit. Justin Bieber got in the holiday spirit with "Under the



Maroon 5 accepts the award for pop/rock favorite band duo or group at the 39th Annual American Music Awards on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011 in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

producer David Guetta emerging from behind a pillar of speakers. The pink-haired singer — wearing a pair of speakers on her much-talked about posterior — kicked off the show with "Turn Me On" before launching into "Super Bass."

Minaj later won favorite rap/hip-hop artist, besting a group that included her mentor, Lil Wayne.

"There's so much love in this room," said Minaj, who

Mistletoe," before Kelly Clarkson, wearing a glittery red gown with her hair swept to the side, delivered a swinging rendition of her "Mr. Know It All" as back-up dancers dressed as 1930s-era photographers snapped the first-ever "American Idol" champion.

Adele leads the nominees with four nods at this year's AMAs, which honor music artists based on online votes. □

Alan Rickman leads a great cast in super 'Seminar'

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — There are terrible moments of silence in Theresa Rebeck's new Broadway play.

No, not to worry: None of the actors has forgotten a line or flubbed a cue while performing in the wonderful new comedy "Seminar," which had its world premiere on Sunday. Those pauses are just the moments where everyone in the Golden Theatre is frozen, staring at Alan Rickman.

The former "Harry Potter" professor plays a crass, pugnacious novelist-turned-tutor to a group of four budding writers. Each week,

he unhappily examines their offerings — pages from fledgling stories on which they've poured their souls — with a casual flip. His students cower as he reads, awaiting the verdict.

It's usually bad. He's likely to lacerate them with remarks such as, "It's perfect, in a kind of whorish way." To another,

he says, "There's no subject or story or idea or meaning." Or, to another in disgust: "I'm not even making it through your first sentence."

Gulp. This economic play — clocking in at 100 minutes with no intermission — still manages to say a lot about the pain and costs of creating art. It is funny, witty and painfully aware — easily one of Rebeck's best works. Director Sam



In this theater publicity image released by The Publicity Office, Jerry O'Connell, left, and Alan Rickman are shown in a scene from the Broadway play "Seminar," in New York.

Associated Press

Gold has drilled home the truth of her words and added a little frisky sexiness. An excellent cast of five — Rickman is joined by Lily Rabe, Hamish Linklater, Jerry O'Connell and Hettienne Park — give Rebeck's words a believable three-dimensional life.

It hits Broadway in a season when two other plays have explored the idea of writers making a mess of their lives for their art — "The Submission" at MCC Theater about a playwright who fakes his identity to get published, and "Other Desert Cities" now on Broadway about a novelist whose strident memoir about her dead brother turns out to have some rather large holes. Weirdly, both have echoes here.

Playwrights writing about writing might seem a bit navel-gazing, but not in Re-

beck's hands. Making her return to Broadway since 2007's "Mauritius," she offers a frank appraisal of the soul-torturing world of authors. "Writers in their natural state are about as civilized as feral cats," she writes in one of several zingers.

The play opens in the snazzy Upper West Side apartment — David Zinn's set emphasizes chic Scandinavian furniture lines, modern art and expensive wood — of Kate (Rabe), a writer with a Jane Austen obsession and an obsession with a short story on which she has been working for six long years.

She's hosting a private seminar in which she and three others have paid \$5,000 each to be taught by Leonard (Rickman), a one-time writer and editor who promises them guidance. Also attending as students are the talented but insecure Martin (Linklater), the average but name-dropping writer Douglas (O'Connell) and the sex pot intellectual Izzy (Park).

Seeking Leonard's favor, the four students naturally turn on each other. The seminar becomes a hothouse of insecurities, where one student's success is considered another's failure and where a comment like "it had some nice things in it" is damning indeed. Sexual frustrations bubble about as these feral cats seek relief from the pressure.

Leonard's unwillingness to sugarcoat anything puts the seminar at risk of imploding, but Rebeck takes us to his paper-strewn apartment for a neat final scene that shows us who this broken writer really is.

Rickman is clearly very good at playing arrogant and sneering, but he shows a touchingly vulnerable side while also delivering a lacerating monologue about what the publishing industry does to young talent and how words can really hurt. Rabe has a coltish immaturity that ages into weary pride by the end, and Linklater is excellent as the nerdy — but needy — wannabe intellectual who is really just a boy.

Who turns out to be the best writer of the bunch? That's easy — Theresa Rebeck. □

Mila Kunis keeps promise to be Marine's date



GREENVILLE, North Carolina

(AP) — Film star Mila Kunis has made good on her promise to a Marine who had been serving in Afghanistan.

Kunis and Marine Sgt. Scott Moore attended the annual Marine Corps Ball on Friday in Greenville, North Carolina. The annual event marks the founding of the Marines in 1775.

Back in July, the data systems technician asked Kunis to be his date for the ball in a YouTube video. He was deployed to Afghanistan at the time.

Kunis accepted his invitation soon after the video was posted.

The actress' appearance comes just days after "Friends With Benefits" co-star Justin Timberlake attended a Marine Corps Ball with Cpl. Kelsey De Santis in Richmond, Virginia. □

Painted bodies transformed into art in Venezuela

JORGE RUEDA

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Artists used paint, ornaments and glitter to transform the human body into artwork at a festival in Venezuela, showing off designs that ranged from pure fantasy to indigenous myths.

The weekend's annual World Meeting of Body Art included body painting, tattoo art, performances and workshops. Fifty-two artists from 18 countries shared their creations at the gathering in Caracas, joining about 2,000 Venezuelans, organizers said.

Participants had their bodies painted in bright hues from orange to lime green. Vines appeared to wind down the shoulders of one woman, and a man posed as a statue with his skin painted to look like marble. "The body is a canvas with infinite possibilities," Venezuelan artist Ivan Hernandez Rojas said. "I think it's fascinating that colors, clothing, makeup, masks, wigs, combs ... and accessories allow the human being to change from one identity to another."

The festival, which began Thursday and ended Sunday, included participants from various Latin American countries as well as others who traveled from the Japan, Luxembourg, Poland, South Africa, Australia, the United States and Austria, among other nations. One presentation by Venezuelan David Aranguren and 11 other artists focused on the mythology of the country's Warao indigenous group, who live in the Orinoco River Delta. Actors' bodies were painted and adorned with leaves and feathers, and they played parts such as the wind and the "crocodile god." □

Conspiracies, coups and currencies

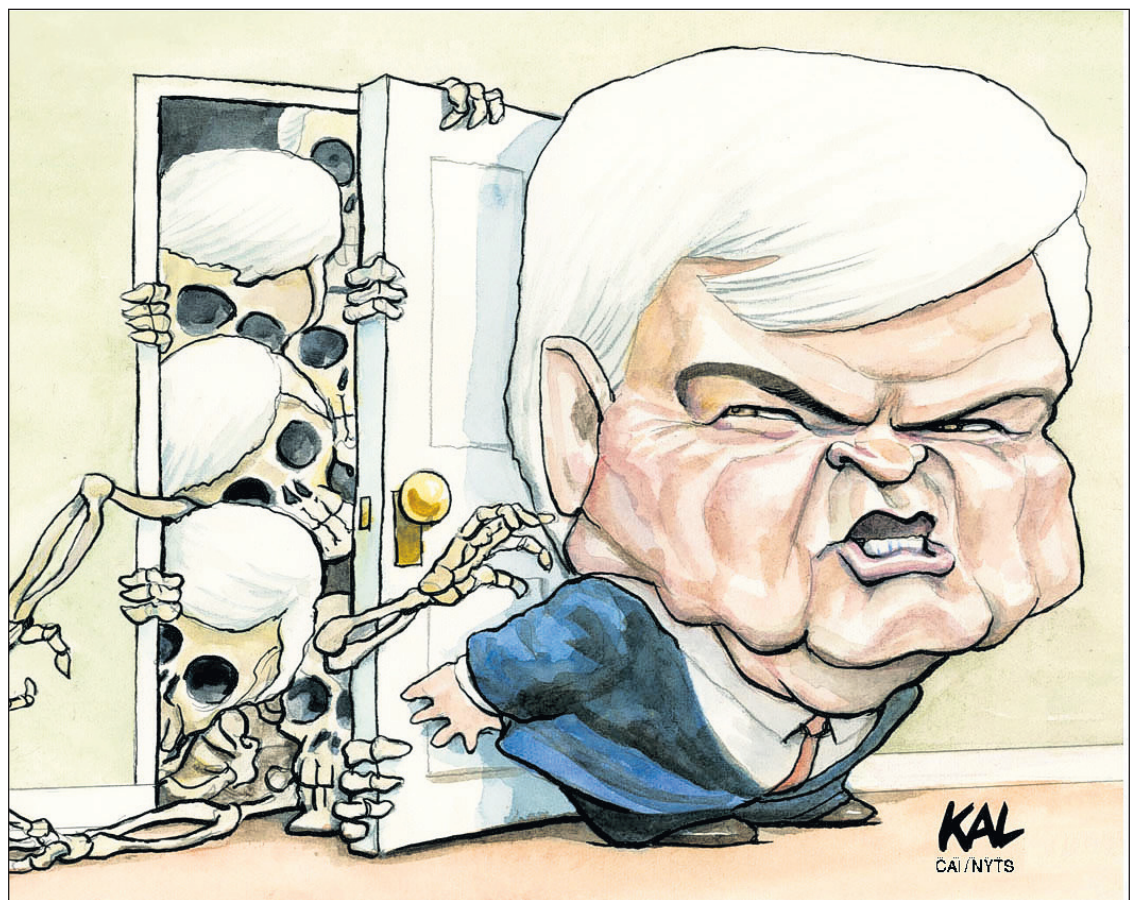


ROSS DOUTHAT
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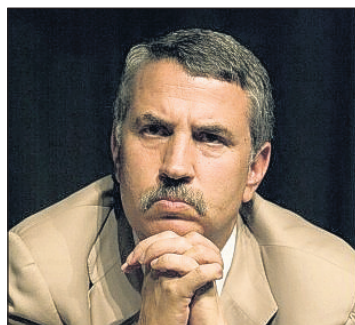
The murmurs about Barack Obama being forced out began in Berlin and Beijing. After his party lost the mid-term vote, there were hints that a government of technocrats would be imposed on America, to save the country from a debt crisis and the world from a depression. As the debt-ceiling negotiations stalled out over the summer, a global coalition – led by Germany, China and the International Monetary Fund – began working behind the scenes to ease Obama out of the White House. The credit downgrade was the final blow: the president had lost the confidence of the world's shadow government, and his administration could no longer survive. Within days, thanks to some unusual constitutional maneuvering, Obama resigned the presidency and Michael Bloomberg was invited to take the oath of office. With Beijing issuing veiled threats against our currency, Congress had no choice but to turn the country's finances over to the Senate's bipartisan Gang of 6, which in turn acceded to Chinese and German "supervision" of their negotiations. Meanwhile, there was a growing consensus in Europe and Asia that only a true global superstate could prevent the debt contagion from spreading ... For Americans, the scenario I've just imagined is a paranoid fantasy, the kind of New World Order nightmare that haunts the sleep of black-helicopter watchers and Trilateral Commission obsessives. But for the inhabitants of Italy and Greece, who have just watched democratically elected governments toppled by pressure from financiers, European Union bureaucrats and foreign heads of state, it evokes the cold reality of 21st-century politics. Democracy may be nice in theory, but in a time of crisis it's the technocrats who really get to call the shots. National sovereignty is a pretty concept, but the survival of the European common currency comes first. There were few tears in Italy

and Greece for Silvio Berlusconi and George Papandreou, the prime ministers – respectively corrupt and hapless – whose downfalls were engineered by the Brussels-Berlin-Paris axis. But their forced departures, however welcome, open a troubling window on what a true European state would look like. Stability would be achieved at the expense of democracy: the rituals of parliaments and elections would endure, but the real decision-making power would pass permanently to the forces represented by the so-called Frankfurt Group – an ad hoc inner circle consisting of Germany's Angela Merkel, France's Nicolas Sarkozy and a cluster of bankers and EU functionaries, which has been spearheaded European crisis management since October. The preview is important because this is precisely the future that almost every informed commentator assumes Europe needs to embrace in order to save the euro and prevent an economic meltdown. The old conventional wisdom held that a continentwide currency union was a wonderful idea, and that euroskeptics were all knuckle-dragging troglodytes. The new conventional wisdom is that yes, well, maybe the knuckle-draggers were right about the perils of the euro, but it's far too late to back out now.

Or at least it's too late at the moment. After the current crisis has passed, some voices have suggested, there will be time to reverse the ongoing centralization of power and reconsider the EU's increasingly undemocratic character. Today the Continent needs a unified fiscal policy and a central bank that's willing to behave like the Federal Reserve, Bloomberg View's Clive Crook has suggested. But as soon as the euro is stabilized, Europe's leaders should start "giving popular sovereignty some voice in other aspects of the EU project." This seems like wishful thinking. Major political consolidations are rarely undone swiftly, and they just as often build upon themselves. The technocratic coups in Greece and Italy have revealed the power that the EU's leadership can exercise over the internal politics of member states. If Germany has to effectively backstop the Continent's debt in order to save the European project, it's hard to see why the Frankfurt Group (its German members, especially) would ever consent to dilute that power. □



How about better parents?



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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In recent years, we've been treated to reams of op-ed articles about how we need better teachers in our public schools and, if only the teachers' unions would go away, our kids would score like Singapore's on the big international tests. There's no question that a great teacher can make a huge difference in a student's achievement, and we need to recruit, train and reward more such teachers.

But here's what some new studies are also showing: We need better parents. Parents more focused on their children's education can also make a huge difference in a student's achievement. How do we know? Every three years, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, or OECD, conducts exams as part of the Program for International Student Assessment, or PISA, which tests 15-year-olds in the world's leading industrialized nations on their reading comprehension and ability to use what they've learned in math and science to solve real problems – the most important skills for succeeding in college and life. America's

15-year-olds have not been distinguishing themselves in the PISA exams compared with students in Singapore, Finland and Shanghai.

To better understand why some students thrive taking the PISA tests and others do not, Andreas Schleicher, who oversees the exams for the OECD, was encouraged by the OECD countries to look beyond the classrooms. So starting with four countries in 2006, and then adding 14 more in 2009, the PISA team went to the parents of 5,000 students and interviewed them "about how they raised their kids and then compared that with the test results" for each of those years, Schleicher explained to me. Two weeks ago, the PISA team published the three main findings of its study:

"Fifteen-year-old students whose parents often read books with them during their first year of primary school show markedly higher scores in PISA 2009 than students whose parents read with them infrequently or not at all. The performance advantage among students whose parents read to them in their early school years is evident regardless of the family's socioeconomic background. Parents' engagement with their 15-year-olds is strongly associated with better performance in PISA." Schleicher explained to me that "just asking your child how was their school day and showing genuine interest in the learning that they are doing can have the same impact as hours of private tutoring. It is something every par-

ent can do, no matter what their education level or social background."

For instance, the PISA study revealed that "students whose parents reported that they had read a book with their child 'every day or almost every day' or 'once or twice a week' during the first year of primary school have markedly higher scores in PISA 2009 than students whose parents reported that they had read a book with their child 'never or almost never' or only 'once or twice a month.' On average, the score difference is 25 points, the equivalent of well over half a school year."

Yes, students from more well-to-do households are more likely to have more involved parents. "However," the PISA team found, "even when comparing students of similar socioeconomic backgrounds, those students whose parents regularly read books to them when they were in the first year of primary school score 14 points higher, on average, than students whose parents did not."

The kind of parental involvement matters, as well. "For example," the PISA study noted, "on average, the score point difference in reading that is associated with parental involvement is largest when parents read a book with their child, when they talk about things they have done during the day, and when they tell stories to their children." The score point difference is smallest when parental involvement takes the form of simply playing with their children. □

Ohio city home to Jeep sees auto industry revival

JOHN SEEWER

Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — This Ohio town that has been churning out Jeeps since World War II, watching its fortunes rise and fall with the well-being of Detroit's automakers, is now finding itself in an enviable position within the car industry. Chrysler and General Motors have promised in recent months to spend more than \$800 million on retooling and expanding their factories here.

These moves will create 1,400 jobs and keep thousands more at the three factories operated by the major automakers and at the smaller parts plants that supply them.

The auto revival is raising spirits around Ohio's fourth-largest city, where high-paying factory jobs have dwindled. Just an hour south of Detroit, the city for generations supplied the auto industry with spark plugs, transmissions and glass. But it has lost a third of its manufacturing jobs over the last decade and unemployment now hovers above 10 percent, just above the state average. That's why Toledo Mayor Mike Bell called Chrysler Group LLC's decision announced Wednesday — to add 1,100 jobs and make its assembly plant a key part of its future — "the equivalent of a blood transfusion for our city."

It's safe to say these deals would have been hard to pull off without cooperation among the major players. "This didn't happen overnight," said Ken Lortz, who's in charge of the United Auto Workers in Ohio. "It was labor, it was management, it was government, it was everybody sitting there saying what do we need. And through that process we got tremendous investment made all over Ohio and particularly in north-west Ohio."

Ohio Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, a Democrat from Toledo who is wildly popular among auto workers, credited them for sacrificing pay and benefits



Pam Bialecki works on a 2012 Jeep Wrangler at the Chrysler Toledo Assembly complex, in Toledo, Ohio. Chrysler says it will add 1,100 jobs at the assembly complex as part of a \$1.7 billion investment to build a new Jeep sport utility vehicle. This town that has been churning out Jeeps since World War II and watched its fortunes rise and fall with the fortunes of Detroit's automakers is now finding itself in an enviable position within the industry. In little over half a year, automakers have promised to spend millions of dollars on retooling and expanding their factories in Toledo, moves that will create jobs and keep many more.

(AP Photo/Madalyn Ruggiero, File)

and accepting lower wages for new hires in recent contracts in order to make sure the automakers didn't leave town.

"Sacrifice and partnership,"

she said. "Sacrifice by all the workers. Partnership between the company, the union, the city, state and federal government. They worked together to do

something no one of them could have done alone." Chrysler worker Richard Garte, who's been making Jeeps for 28 years, said all sides recognized what was at stake.

"It's been a pretty big turnaround," said Garte, 56. "We still make a good wage, but remember we gave up a lot."

Chrysler's assembly plant, which opened in 2001, now has about 1,800 workers and produces the Jeep Liberty and Wrangler along with the soon-to-be-discontinued Dodge Nitro.

The plant will begin producing a new Jeep sport utility vehicle in 2013 to replace the Liberty. But expectations are that it won't be the only new model coming to Toledo.

Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne said last week there will be a new vehicle to replace the Nitro and hinted that other vehicles could be built on the same

assembly line. He also said there's a chance of expanding Wrangler production if its sales increase overseas.

"This plant has been at the heart of what we've done," he said, adding that the latest expansion "reinforces the special relationship between Chrysler and the city of Toledo."

Chrysler in August said it would put \$72 million into its suburban Toledo plant that makes torque converters and steering columns, allowing it to maintain 640 workers.

That came after General Motors Corp. said in May that it would hire at least 250 workers at a transmission factory that already employs 1,700 people.

Chrysler worker James Young, 39, said he's hopes the investments will spread throughout the city.

"Hopefully it trickles down," he said, "to everybody, not just us." □

For some, free music is an investment that pays off

JON CARAMANICA

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What's the value of a career's worth of Internet buzz? Approximately 175,000 albums sold in one week — then look out below from there.

On Wednesday the Pittsburgh rapper Mac Miller topped the Billboard album chart with his debut album, "Blue Slide Park" (Rostrum), selling about 144,000 albums. The week before, the Washington rapper Wale made his debut at No. 2 on the chart (behind Justin Bieber's Christmas album) with "Ambition" (Maybach Music Group/Warner Brothers), which sold about 164,000 copies. And last month J. Cole's first album, "Cole World: The Sideline Story" (Roc-A-Fella), made its bow atop the chart with about 217,000 copies sold in its first week. (All figures are from Nielsen SoundScan.) First, the good news: A new generation of rappers is actively trying to build a new business model in which releasing oodles of free material online builds



The rapper Wale performs at the Best Buy Theater in New York, March 4, 2011. Wale, along with the artists Mike Miller and J. Cole, have topped the charts after carefully nurturing an Internet fan base.

(Chad Batka/The New York Times)

a fan base that paves the way for revenue streams: touring, merchandise, even something as old-fashioned as a record deal.

"Blue Slide Park" is the first independently released album to top the chart since Tha Dogg Pound's "Dogg Food" (Death Row), in 1995. But Tha Dogg Pound was affiliated with Dr. Dre and Snoop Doggy Dogg, the heavy hitters of the day. While the Rostrum label has also nurtured the career of Wiz Khalifa, Mac Miller arrives at the top of the chart

more or less on his own. The Internet made him as popular as Wale (pronounced wah-LAY), an artist who's been on two major labels and is affiliated with Rick Ross, and J. Cole, who is signed to Jay-Z's label. (Being white probably helped Mac Miller too — more on that shortly.)

Each of these artists followed a similar path to arrive at this point: Release a string of mixtapes, the free albums that were once the preserve of street corners but are now native to

the Internet, and augment them with an active social-media presence, from Twitter to video blogging. (For Wale, this is the second time down the same road: His 2009 major-label debut, "Attention Deficit," on Allido/Interscope, was a bust.) That Mac Miller has topped the Billboard album chart maybe says more about the state of record sales than about the popularity of Mac Miller. Certainly, a No. 1 debut isn't meaningful in and of itself; it may simply indicate that executives were clever enough to pick a release date that wouldn't compete with Taylor Swift or Lil Wayne or Adele or Jay-Z.

And while these first-week sales numbers are impressive in a tough climate for the traditional record business, they're numbers that reflect, at best, pent-up demand: proof of concept, if you will, that an artist's virtual fame can translate to fans spending real-world dollars on a product that they could easily steal (unlike a T-shirt). □